僕らはみんな河原で

BOKURA WA MINNA KAWARA DE

宮原るり
MIYAHARA RURI PRESENTS

3

カバーデザイン／川谷康久

YOUNG KING COMICS

僕らはみんな河原で
BOKURA WA MINNA KAWARA DE
3
宮原るり

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★★

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宮原るり
MIYAHARA RURI

「シロさんと俺」的なことは
けっこう今でもやります。
こんな大人に
なってはいけませんよ。

津ちゃんて
ラブい小説読んだら
恋愛脳になんのかな

エロ小説は？
すげー
気になる

中身がしっかり
してないと
ダメだし…

さやか 純文学で
ラブくてエロいの
しってるよぉー

おぉ…
ハマって
る……

ドキ

ドキ

き…効いてる…
読んでるうちにアピールしなきゃっ

あれ？
セーフ！

あれ？？
セーフ！

ねぇねぇ宇佐くん

ぼっ

オレの先越しらないって

男色小説じゃねえスか…

純文学さそこにはニーズのさわやかな

ラブラブだよう～？

僕らはみんな河合荘

BOKURA WA MINNA KAWAISOU

MIYAHARA RURI
PRESENTS

宮原るり

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I TOLD YOU!
YOU SHOULD STAY AWAY FROM HER.
I'M NOT BEING MEAN, I'M BEING GENUINELY NICE!
WELL, HER BOOBS ARE HUGE.
I CAN UNDER-STAND WHY YOU WANT TO DATE HER.
PHONE: TAGAMI
THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN HANDLE HER!
THERE'S A 120% CHANCE YOU'LL GET BURNED,
AND YOU'LL LIKELY BE SCARRED FOR LIFE.
YOU'RE JUST LIKE SHIRO-SAN, AREN'T YOU?
WHAT?
NO, I'M AT HOME RIGHT NOW. YEAH, SO IS SHE.
WHAT?
WHAT IS SHE DOING?
WHUD
WHUD

CHAPTER 1
GOOD QUES-TION...
WHIMPER
WHAUP
WHAUP
WHAUP
WHAUP
WHAT?
IN ANY CASE, YOU'VE GOTTA INTRODUCE ME TO THE HOT LADY WITH THE BIG BOOBS!

I HAVE NOTHING TO DO TODAY.
I CAN HEAD OVER RIGHT NOW.
GUMP
NO! DON'T COME!
SORRY, BUT I'M HANGING UP.
HEY, USA—
BEEP
YOU WERE JUST THINK-ING, WEREN'T YOU?
"WHAT IS SHE DOING?"
SOMEONE MY AGE SPENDING SUMMER ALL ALONE, WITH NOTHING BUT FREE TIME... HA HA... WHAT AM I DOING?
WHIMPER
I WANT TO SEE SOMEONE WHO'S MORE UNHAPPY THAN ME RIGHT NOW!
SHIRO! BRING ME THE MOST GRAPHIC BOOK YOU HAVE ON TYING PEOPLE UP!
I'LL GIVE IT TO RIT-CHAN AND TELL HER USA WANTS HER TO READ HIS FAVORITE BOOK!
DON'T!
...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHIP
ゴスッ
GOOD QUES-TION...
WHIP
ゴスッ
SO! WHAT HAPPENED?
SHUFFLE
ゴソゴソ
ONE OF THE OLDER LADIES AT THE OFFICE GOT A BOYFRIEND.
SILENCE
...
WHICH MAKES ME THE PERSON EVERYONE TIPTOES AROUND NOW.
NOT THE CEO?!
AND YOU'RE ALSO THE PERSON EVERYONE TIPTOES AROUND AT THE KAWAI COMPLEX.
WOW, THAT'S TWO FOR TWO!

OH! I WAS REMEMBERING SOMETHING I SAW ON TV A LONG TIME AGO ABOUT HOW RIDING ON SOMEONE'S SHOULDERS IS FUN AS AN ADULT.
I think it was on Knight Super
SHIRO'S THE TALLEST ONE HERE.
IT WAS ACTUALLY REALLY NICE...
I WONDER WHY.
HEY.
WHACK
CRASH
WHUD
Oh, a barrage.
SO WHY ARE YOU SITTING ON TOP OF SHIRO-SAN?
LOOKING DOWN ON YOU GUYS FEELS PRETTY GOOD.
I'M LOSING THE DESIRE TO CHEER HER UP.
ALSO... I FIGURE SHIRO'S RESILIENT MENTALITY MIGHT RUB OFF ON ME...
WHAT?!
FOR EXAMPLE... ALL YOU DO FOR SOCIETY IS TAKE UP SPACE.
I CAN HELP HOUSEWIVES BY LETTING THEM HANG THINGS ON ME...!
PANT
PANT
ISN'T IT AMAZING?

OR WHEN SOMEONE SAYS HOW WOMEN OUR AGE DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO LOVE STORIES, UNABLE TO SAY,
"OF COURSE," I TURN TO PRAYER INSTEAD.
WHEN I SEE A CELL PHONE LEFT CONSPICUOUSLY...
...IN THE CAFETERIA WITH A HUGE STICKER.
I WISH...
OR WHEN PEOPLE TELL ME I COULD FIND SOMEONE IF I WEREN'T SO PICKY.
IF I COULD THINK LIKE SHIRO,
I COULD ENJOY THIS SITUATION...
THAT'S A PROBLEM IN ITSELF.

I WISH THEY WOULDN'T FORGET HOW PAINFUL IT WAS WHEN THEY WERE SINGLE...
...AND PEOPLE TOLD THEM THAT!!
I NEED TO LOOK DOWN ON THEM FROM EVEN HIGHER...
I WANT MORE PEOPLE BENEATH ME...
HONESTY OF THE WORST KIND.
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE INSENSITIVE OR JUST PRETENDING TO BE,
BUT WOMEN ARE ALL THE SAME!

MAYUMI-CHAN.
OH, YOU'RE RIDING HIS SHOULDERS!
THAT LOOKS FUN.
YOU CAN PLAY THE GUITAR?
I FOUND THIS IN THE CLOSET.
HAVE YOU HEARD THE PHRASE, "WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND"?
PEOPLE WHO PUT "TOGETHER FOREVER" ON THEIR PHOTO STICKERS NEVER STAY TOGETHER FOREVER.
MEW
I HAVEN'T TOUCHED IT SINCE THE CHERRY BLOSSOM VIEWING PARTY...
There might be some petals inside
OH
MAYUMI-SAN HAD JUST START-ED DATING SOMEONE.
SHE WAS SO HAPPY, SHE PUT ON A "HAPPY SOLO CONCERT" AND SANG HER HEART OUT...
MAYU
KEN!

TEXT: TOGETHER FOREVER

CLIMB
のぼり
CLIMB
のぼり
it already came around
PEOPLE WHO PUT "TOGETHER FOREVER" ON THEIR PHOTO STICKERS NEVER STAY TOGETHER FOREVER.
ACCORDING TO MAYUMI
のぼり
WHAT?!
HIGH-ER. SOME-PLACE HIGH-ER...
HEY!
THAT'S DANGER-OUS!
COME DOWN!

I HOPE THIS SONG WILL BRING SOME MISERY TO YOU.
THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SHARE.
IS THAT A CURSE?
LISTEN TO MY HEART'S CONTENT.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING TO NISHIKINO MAYUMI'S MISERABLE SOLO CONCERT.
GIVEN HER MENTAL STATE,
THIS COULD BE ONE OMINOUS CONCERT...
I BROUGHT SNACKS
THEY GOT READY QUICK.
THERE'S NO HELPING IT NOW. LET'S HUMOR HER.

YOU
AND I...
...ARE LIVING IN A DREAM.
THOSE LYRICS...
WE GOT MARRIED...
IN A SMALL CHURCH DEEP IN THE FOREST,
ASHAI 朝井 2009/11/4-20
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN A GREAT SINGER.
THAT ONLY MAKES IT WORSE...
Sing a wonderful melody
Majumi-chan, sing "Seto no Hanayome" next
Sing Amuro next
SUCH BRUTAL REQUESTS...

I'm not alone anymore, yes!
Finally, my happiness!
IT WAS ALWAYS NOISY BACK HOME.
YOU SEEMED USED TO IT FROM THE START.
WE HAD WEIRDOS HANGING AROUND ALL THE TIME.
I'M USED TO IT NOW.
I'M IMPRESSED YOU CAN READ UNDER THESE CONDITIONS.
I MUST HAVE LEARNED TO DEAL WITH IT.
YOU'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO HELP.
YOU'RE KIND OF NICE.
And you tend to meddle.
Urgh...
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE LIKE THAT.
SENPAI, BEFORE YOU CAME HERE...
BEFORE...
HUH?

IT WAS JUST ME AND MY MOM.
IT WAS QUIET.
I MOVED HERE WHEN MY MOM MOVED OVERSEAS FOR WORK.
IT'S NOISY,
AND IT'S FULL OF WEIRDOS.
BUT...
...SINCE COMING HERE...
I...
...STARTED READING EVEN MORE.
I DON'T WANT TO GROW UP TO BE LIKE THEM.
I DON'T KNOW WHY...
...BUT I CAN FOCUS BETTER THAN BEFORE.

Don't let it get you down!
You can do it!
I WONDER WHY...
You're like an old Kakaku singer.
IT'S NOISY, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, IT'S NOT.
Urgh... I watched this with an ex a long time ago...
And I...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOISY?
I WONDER WHY.
What!!
Actually it is noisy.
...BUT I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY FIRST.
WE'RE COMING UP ON THE 20TH SONG...
Hah
Sigh!

I KNOW.
TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.
SINGING DOESN'T REALLY MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.
I CALLED THEM INSENSITIVE,
BUT I DID THE SAME THING.
I'M SCARED TO TAKE A HARD LOOK AT MYSELF.
I SET MYSELF UP FOR JERKS TO TRICK ME WITH THEIR SWEET TALK.
SO I COMPARE MYSELF TO SOMEONE ELSE TO FEEL BETTER.
I HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS.
WHEN THAT PERSON DISAPPEARS, EVERYTHING FALLS APART.
BEFORE I KNOW IT, I'M THE ONE OTHER PEOPLE USE TO MAKE THEMSELVES FEEL BETTER.

Everything's gone wrong since.
IT'S ALL BECAUSE MY FIRST BOYFRIEND WAS A TOTAL LOSER...
OR NOT!
MAYUMI-SAN'S ACTUALLY DEPRESSED...!!
THOUGH SHE'S NOT MAKING MUCH SENSE AND STILL SOUNDS LIKE A JERK.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! THERE'S NOTHING ATTRACTIVE ABOUT ME!
I KNOW EVERYONE THINKS I'M SOME EASY FLOOZY!
WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN?
IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT RAIN.
I KNOW!
I'LL AGREE THAT YOU'RE EASY.
SAYAKA, YOU BITCH!
BUT
I LIKE YOU.
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE FUN.

YOU MAKE LIFE EXCITING.
EVERYTHING YOU SAY AND DO IS EXTREME.
YOU CERTAINLY ARE A FUN PERSON.

NOW, I HAVE EVEN MORE THINGS TO BE UNHAPPY ABOUT.
I LIKE YOU, TOO, MAYUMI-SAN!
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME THE LEAST BIT HAPPY...

LET'S HAVE DINNER TOGETHER.
Even though it's a little early.
NOW, COME DOWN.
YOU'RE A FUN PERSON TO HAVE AROUND.
I LOVE YOU, MAYUMI-CHAN.

WHAT?
JUMP
I'LL GET IT.
A GUEST?
Hello!
OKAY...

TAGAMI?!
I'M HERE.
197
HARB
COMIN
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME.
HOW'D YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND US?
I GOT DIRECTIONS AT A POLICE BOX.
For some reason they told me not to go.
WHERE'S THE HOTTIE WITH THE BIG BOOBS?
She's totally my type!
I TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM HER!
WHY? YOU GET ALL THE FUN.
TODAY'S A REALLY BAD TIME...
HUH?
YOU...

WHOA!
UH,
I...
I...
OH, SORRY!
WHISPER
WHISPER
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM AROUND THAT BABE?
DUDE, THE VIEW IS IN-CREDIBLE!
DAMN, I'M JEALOUS.
BOOM
CONFIDENCE
IF YOU'RE FREE, MAYBE WE COULD
UM... I'M USA'S FRIEND.
ALL GO OUT SOME-WHERE...
Or just the two of us...
BOOM
CONFI-DENCE
CONFI-DENCE
BOOM
CONFI-DENCE

IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME TO COMFORT HER.
FULL RE-COV-ERY
WHAT TO DO...
PRIDE
PRIDE
FULL
SENPAI'S RESOLVE HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED.
I'M GONNA READ...
DON'T TOY WITH HELPLESS YOUNG BOYS!
I WAS JUST BEING SUGGES-TIVE
TO MAKE MYSELF FEEL SUPERIOR.
That's what you call trying with him!
Be a good boy and go home.
Why?
Go home!

I think...
HE HASN'T HAD HIS BIRTHDAY YET,
15?!
SO 15?
It's been a while since a guy hit on me so openly. How cute!
MAYBE I SHOULD TRY A YOUNGER GUY.
HOW OLD IS HE?
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN A KID WHO HASN'T GROWN ALL HIS HAIR DOWN THERE.
HE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY HAIRY!
YOU'RE SO CONSISTENTLY SHAMELESS, IT'S ACTUALLY COMFORTING!
BY THE WAY, WHY DO YOU KNOW HOW HAIRY TAGAMI-KUN IS?
HUH?
YOU FORGET WHAT HAPPENS DURING PUBERTY...
WHEN YOU'RE TWICE THE AGE OF A 15 YEAR OLD,
I'm not twice his age!

CHAPTER 1/END

AAAAAHHH!
HUH?
WHAT?
WHOA!
GRAH!
STOMP

WHAT'S GOING ON?
OW...

CHAPTER 2

HELP...
HUH?
WHAT?
URGH...
WHAT?!

BUT I HAVE NO IDEA HOW I SHOULD REACT WHEN A LUCKY MOMENT LIKE THIS IS THE NORM!
MY REACTION SHOULD'VE BEEN TO SAY YOUR BRA AND PANTIES ACTUALLY MATCH FOR ONCE.
not listening
You came out too late.
THAT'S IT! THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF SEEING SO MUCH SKIN AND CONSIDERING IT NORMAL!
THAT'S HOW THIS PLACE WORKS!
That scream.
I THOUGHT I IMAGINED IT...
I WAS TRYING TO ACHIEVE M SLEEP IN THAT HARDCORE SADISTIC HEAT AND WAS ABOUT TO FAINT.
USA-KUN SAID HE WAS GOING TO SLEEP IN THE LIVING ROOM.
Our room is too hot.
PUNCH!
PUNCH!
"Finally" was unnecessary.
FINALLY?
USA-KUN, DID YOU SNEAK INTO HER ROOM?
Sneaky freaky!!
You should memorize my phone # in case you ever like that.
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

SO,
WHAT HAPPENED?
I...
WAS IN BED...
SAYING THE WORD "BED" IN A TREMBLING VOICE AT NIGHT IS AGONY FOR VIRGINS WHO GET EXCITED BY THE LETTERS W AND Y...
DON'T TURN THIS INTO A PERVERTED CONVERSATION!
THE 5 PAGE IN YOUR ENGLISH-JAPANESE DICTIONARY...
HIGH
I DON'T HAVE IT MARKED!
around e.
...
I WAS IN MY ROOM, READING...
SHE USED A DIFFERENT WORD.
PLOP

WARNING
SQUIRM
A CENTI-PEDE?!
AN ARTHROPOD THAT TORMENTS YOU SO MUCH WITH JUST ONE ENCOUNTER IS THE ECOLOGIST OF THE S&M WORLD!
Shut it up!
SENPAI, CALM DOWN.
LET'S TRY THIS, THEN!
THAT IMAGE WAS TOO GROSS!
I can't even see well and it's still gross.
!
!
!!
SHUDDER

TO ENSURE EVERYONE'S MENTAL HEALTH, THE IMAGE HAS BEEN FANCIFIED SLIGHTLY.
Hi!
RITSU'S ROOM IS IN THE VERY BACK.
Grab speed!
Ritsu
Super confused super speed walking
CLICK!
Hi!
THUD!
Ritsu
Sumiko
WA...
SU...
SUMI.
SU-MIKO-SAN.
PANT
WAKE...
WAKE UP.

Girls search
SUMIKO-SAN LOVES JAPANESE DOLLS.
SUMIKO-SAN IS A REAL JAPANESE PERSON.
Girls search
MAYUMI-SAN CAN'T SEE WITHOUT HER GLASSES.
WHAT?
MA-
MAYUMI-SAN
UH
NAH!

AAAH!
Mistaken for a centipede
Thong (never worn before)
BACK HOME, I NEVER SAW ANY CENTI-PEDES.
ARE THERE A LOT HERE?
SOMETIMES YOU SEE THEM DURING THE RAINY SEASON.
And we're near Mount Kinka.
It's been raining a lot.
USUALLY SUMIKO-SAN DEALS WITH THEM QUICKLY...
It works extremely well.
I'M NOT SURE WHAT SHE USES.
SHE'S COMING BACK TO-MORROW, RIGHT?
IF YOU SHUT IT INSIDE A BOOK, SHOULDN'T IT STAY THERE UNTIL MORNING?
WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP IN THE LIVING ROOM?
Uhhh
You can have the bed.
I'll do that...
OH.
I REMEM-BER NOW...
To extermi-nate centi-pedes...
WHAT SHE USED?
ONE OF SUMIKO-SAN'S FRIENDS
TAPED UP A CENTIPEDE ON BOTH SIDES...
Tape sounds effective.
...RUBBED THE TAPE ON TIGHT, AND LEFT IT ALONE UNTIL MORNING.

TRUE STORY

BUT IF IT RAN AWAY, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO.
WHAT?
IF YOU CUT THEM IN THREE, ALL THREE PIECES KEEP MOVING.
TOO GROSS TO SHOW
AAAH!
THEY'RE APPARENTLY PRETTY TOUGH.
THEN A BOOK WON'T HELP AT ALL...

TRUE STORY

Awkward because of how many times she's beaten him with a bamboo sword.
SNIFF
COULD YOU KILL IT, RIT-CHAN?
I COULDN'T.
IF I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SLEEP...
HUH?
BUT...
BUT IT'S IN THE GIRLS' AREA...
I've never exterminated a centipede before.
SNIFF

I'LL DO IT!!
AS LONG AS YOU PROMISE NOT TO HIT ME WITH THAT SWORD!
WOULD YOU HIT ME, THOUGH?
PANT PANT
PUT SOME IN A THERMOS...
we only have two.
A PLASTIC BAG,
AND A FLASHLIGHT.
LONG CHOPSTICKS,
finally remembered
HOT WATER DOES THE TRICK.
INTO THE FORBIDDEN GIRLS' AREA!!

IT LOOKS THE SAME AS THE REST OF THE BUILDING...
BUT I THINK IT SMELLS NICER...
CAN YOU CHECK MY ROOM, TOO?
I need to get my glasses.
IT'S A LITTLE MESSY, THOUGH.
I HAVEN'T BEEN IN HERE SINCE THE LAST EXCEPTION.
HER FURNITURE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY CUTE.
REALLY?
THAT'S SURPRISING...
CLICK

Last time I was here, she had a boyfriend...
HEY! YOU HAVEN'T LOOKED AROUND YET!
THE PITIFUL STATE YOU'RE IN MAKES ME WANT TO TRADE PLACES WITH YOU!!
THAT'S LIKE PLAYING WHERE'S WALDO, AND THE NICE SMELL WAS JUST FRUIT WINE AND OLD COOKIES. IT WAS MY FIRST TIME IN A GIRL'S ROOM SINCE HITTING PUBERTY, AND I HAD TO BE SLAPPED IN THE FACE BY THIS REALITY?
Jealous!
And you're wearing mothering but underwear right now.
No, there's no way there's a bra around here!
I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND IT IN THERE...
I GET IT.
YOU SPOTTED THAT BRA IN THE UPPER RIGHT, DIDN'T YOU?
SIGH
HE'S RIGHT... SENPAI'S...
CENTI-PEDE...
THE ROOM OF THE GIRL I LIKE...
PANT
PANT
IT'S OKAY! SHE'S NOT REALLY A GIRL.
THE REAL THING COMES NEXT.

IT SMELLS LIKE A BOOK-STORE.
YOUR ROOM IS AS UNSEXY AS EVER.
You have no right to say that!
YOUR GRAND-FATHER GAVE YOU THESE BOOKS, RIGHT?
CAN I BORROW ONE?
ABSO-LUTELY NOT.
THE CENTI-PEDE IS OVER THERE.
ON THE BED.
IT'S THE BED...
...WHERE SENPAI SLEEPS...
I WON'T BE ABLE TO STAND ANY-MORE.
?
THERE'S A CENTIPEDE. BURIED BE-NEATH THOSE BOOKS! A CENTIPEDE!
THIS IS NO TIME TO SUCCUMB TO URGES.
?!
COME ON, CENTIPEDE! COME ON, CENTIPEDE!

FIGHT, CENTIPEDE!!
?!
BUT MY BOOKS...
I DON'T MIND... IF MY BED GETS WET...
I'M GOING TO MOVE THE BOOKS...
BUSY
!? IS IT OKAY IF WE POUR HOT WATER ON IT?
Your bed.

WHUMPH
HERE WE GO...
READY, AND...
GO!

SENPAI, HANG IN THERE!!
IT MIGHT BE IN MY ROOM!
RIT-CHAN, YOU LEFT YOUR DOOR OPEN, DIDN'T YOU?!
Oh
IT'S NOT HERE!
LET'S LOOK AROUND YOUR ROOM!
HUERK
SHIRO, COME!!

FWOOSH
WHAT'S ON THE HALLWAY CEILING...
IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE
IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE IN YOUR ROOM.
MAYBE IT'S... OUTSIDE.
?...
WHOA!
EEK!
DID YOU SEE IT?!
JUMP!
I TH-THINK IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE...
NO,
DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT
OH...
Sigh...
I FEEL LIKE IT'S NEARBY...
I'LL TAKE THE LID OFF SO I CAN POUR WATER ON IT RIGHT AWAY...
Squish
UGH...
I'M SICK OF THIS...

TO ENSURE RITSU AND USA'S MENTAL HEALTH (ETC.)
HI!
WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO? IF I TELL HER, SHE'LL DEFINITELY PANIC.
IF SHE MOVES, SHE MIGHT GET BITTEN.
I can't pour hot water on her.
A-Hi...
I HAVE TO SMACK IT OFF QUICKLY...
WHY
TURN
AREN'T YOU SAYING ANYTHING?
OH!

NO...
SQUIRM
AAAH!
NOOO!
NOOO!
SEN
GET IT OFF!
WATCH...
...
NO!

PEEK
SENPAI!
CALM DOWN!
IT'S GONE.
IT'S OKAY.
IT'S GONE NOW.

IT'S OKAY.
I...
I'M SORRY.
HUH?
I lost control
OH.
NO, I'M SORRY.
RELIEF
RELIEF
...

USA-KUN'S NOT USED TO BEING HAPPY.
Is this a parting gift?
DO I STILL COME OUT AHEAD IF THE CENTIPEDE STINGS ME IN A VITAL AREA LATER?
AM I GOING TO DIE...?!
GASP
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THE KAWAII COMPLEX TONIGHT?!
SHE'S BEING NICE TO ME?!
She's thin. She's soft. She smells nice.
The person who usually runs his fingers through mine is precious to me.
WHOA!
UGH!
STAY BACK!
Ah!
Someone help!
ARTHRO-POD SLAP!
Whoa!
SLAP
SWISH
SLAP
SLAP
VOING
SLAP

You were here!
TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.
YOUR SCREAM STARTLED ME, MAYUMI-SAN.
It's like a sauna in there.
!!!
We should head back.
Are you surprised? Not really.
I'M USED TO CENTIPEDES SINCE THEY SHOWED UP ALL THE TIME BACK HOME.
IF ANOTHER ONE SHOWS UP, I'LL BE THERE TO HELP RIGHT AWAY.
AFTER YOU'VE PUT ON ALL OF YOUR MAKEUP, RIGHT? THANKS.
It's okay.
WELL,
GOOD
NI—
Me, too
Me, too
I'm tired. I'm going to sleep in the living room...
to take off your makeup

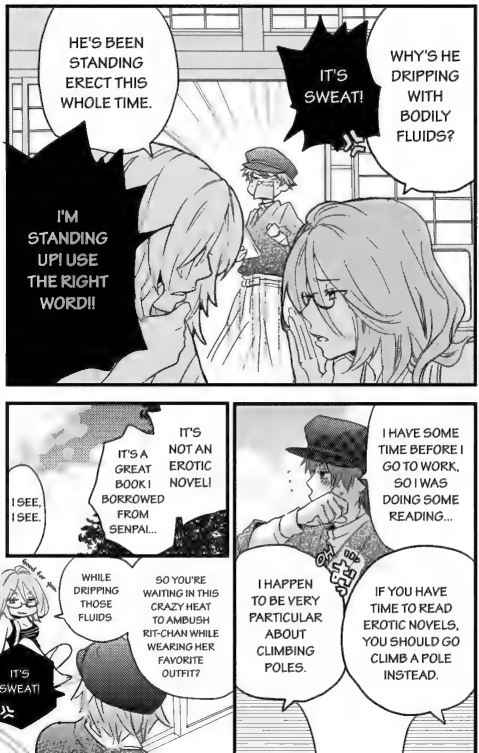
CHAPTER 2/END

This guy is hope-less
DOESN'T THAT MEAN I HAVE A CHANCE, SINCE IT HAS COME IN?
So give up
SHE SAID SHE'S NOT INTERESTED IN A KID WHO LOOKS LIKE HIS HAIR DOWN THERE IS STILL COMING IN.
M-MAYBE...
I'M NOT SURE THAT'S IMPORTANT HERE.
LOOK,
WHY'S SHE SO INTERESTED IN MY HAIR?
THIS GUY IS HOPE-LESS
...SHE WANTS TO SHAVE IT.

SOMETHING NICE?!
I'M NOT... WELL, SOMETHING KIND OF NICE DID HAPPEN THE OTHER DAY.
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? YOU'RE GETTING ALONG WELL WITH SENPAI!
IN ANY CASE, YOU SHOULD GIVE UP!
And she's actually pretty cute!
SHE POURED HOT WATER ON ME.
AND PUT ICE ON IT FOR ME.
?

MY FRIEND IS A MASOCHIST
BY TACAMI

CHAPTER 3
HEH HEH.
WHEW...


HE'S BEEN STANDING ERECT THIS WHOLE TIME.
I'M STANDING UP! USE THE RIGHT WORD!!
IT'S SWEAT!
WHY'S HE DRIPPING WITH BODILY FLUIDS?
I SEE, I SEE.
IT'S A GREAT BOOK I BORROWED FROM SENPAI...
IT'S NOT AN EROTIC NOVEL!
I HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE I GO TO WORK, SO I WAS DOING SOME READING...
I HAPPEN TO BE VERY PARTICULAR ABOUT CLIMBING POLES.
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO READ EROTIC NOVELS, YOU SHOULD GO CLIMB A POLE INSTEAD.
Good for you
WHILE DRIPPING THOSE FLUIDS
SO YOU'RE WAITING IN THIS CRAZY HEAT TO AMBUSH RIT-CHAN WHILE WEARING HER FAVORITE OUTFIT?
IT'S SWEAT!

I'M QUITTING MY JOB SOON...
I thought I'd show off while I can...
YOU SHOULD KEEP WORKING.
DOESN'T IT PAY WELL?
URGH.
BUT I'M TIRED OF BEING FREAK SHOW!
They're not bad people, though.
I WANT TO STAY AWAY FROM WEIRD PEOPLE.
YOU'RE STILL UPSET ABOUT HAYASHI?
NOT REALLY...
I FEEL SO HOPELESS, IT'S IDIOTIC!!
Climbing Pole Map
Cleaners (nasty old lady)
Convenience Store (home's on a journey)
Manga Park (weird and unsatisfactory)
Grade School (kids of armed)
IT'S TOO LATE.
LOOK AT WHAT YOUR ROOMMATE'S MAKING RIGHT NOW.
THAT SHOULD'VE BEEN THE FIRST THING YOU TOLD ME!
RIT-CHAN LEFT FOR THE BOOKSTORE FIRST THING THIS MORNING.
OH! RIGHT.
I'M GOING NOW.
Usa-kun, you forgot your map.
I forgot it on purpose.

KEEP WORKING HERE, HUH?
WHERE'D YOU GET THESE BOOKSHELVES?
Kanaji House
Mizushiro Cafe
Closed for Summer Holiday August 17, 18, 19
Main restaurant will open Lunch
THE WORK IS PRETTY FUN,
AND NOW THAT I'M USED TO MY COWORKERS...
ANE-KOUJI-KUN!
THE MADAME HAD THEM SENT OVER FROM ENGLAND. LET US BUILD OURSELVES A PLACE OF LEARNING!
Translation
THE OWNER BOUGHT THEM FROM AN ANTIQUE STORE.
HELP US PUT THE BOOKS AWAY.
I'M PRETTY COMFORTABLE...
WHY WOULD I WANT TO GET COMFORTABLE HERE?
THESE ARE WONDERFUL SHELVES. THE GHOST OF AN UPPER-CLASS ENGLISH LADY DWELLS IN THEM.
Saionyi-kun, did the heat get to you?
I could ask you the same thing.
I'M QUITTING! I HAVE TO QUIT!
I'M HEADED STRAIGHT BACK TO THE FREAK SHOW!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THANKLESS WORK.
People called him "Freak Show."

THERE WERE A LOT OF BOOKS IN SENPAI'S ROOM.
SHE'D PROBABLY BE THRILLED IF SHE SAW THESE BOOK-SHELVES
MAYBE I'LL CASUALLY INVITE HER SOMETIME...
OWNER, WE'RE OUT OF BOOKS.
OH, MY... THERE'S STILL SOME SPACE.
I WAS HOPING TO FILL IT WITH OLD BOOKS...
NEW BOOKS WOULD LOOK TACKY...
I'd rather have them match.
UM,
IN THAT CASE...
I'M HOME...
Ah... if only our village elder's study hadn't burned down...
It happened the day after I left the village...
Our elder always...

PERFECT TIMING!
THEY WANT TO KNOW IF YOU CAN LEND THEM SOME OLD BOOKS FOR A WHILE.
WHAT?
WEREN'T YOU SAYING YOU DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH SPACE FOR YOUR BOOKS?
THEY'LL GIVE US COFFEE TICKETS IN RETURN. WHY DON'T YOU READ AT THE CAFE?
They have lots of books.
WHAT?
All right.
I'LL GO!
THEY SAID THEY'LL GIVE TICKETS TO ANYONE WHO HELPS TRANSPORT THE BOOKS, TOO.
LUCKY.
SHE SAID WE CAN BORROW THEM!
What
YES!
SHIRO-SAN HAS A CAR?!
SINCE THEY'RE HEAVY, SHIRO-KUN'S DRIVING THEM OVER.
...
SENPAI'S COMING.

PANT
PANT
YUP, THAT'S A CAR.
Free riders
Hey.
OH!
STEP
STEP
YOU'RE LENDING US ALL THESE BOOKS FOR FREE?
You can't keep them.
WE MUST SHOW OUR GRATITUDE BY READING THEM WELL AND NOURISHING OUR MINDS...
And immediately I'll make it to the capital.
WOW.
I'M SUCH A CHILD, I HAVE TROUBLE READING. I ADMIRE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERIOUS ABOUT READING.
AND I ADMIRE YOUR ABILITY TO IMMEDIATELY HIT ON EVERY MAN, NO MATTER WHO HE IS.

SHE SEEMS SO HAPPY...
She's shaking...
SHE'S HOPE-LESS.
BUT...
OH.
SENPAI,
YOUR TEA...
...THIS
ISN'T BAD.
SHE'S ALREADY AB-SORBED.
HUH?

SHIRO-SAN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I THINK I'M ABOUT TO GET HEAT STROKE.
COME INSIDE...
I LOVE THIS BORDER-LINE FEELING.
FEEL FREE TO DRY UP AND DIE, THEN.
Jeez!
GHOST WHISPERER HAYASHI-SAN!!
JUMP!

YOU'RE HERE TO SEE USA-KUN?
I WAS REALLY MEAN TO HIM THE OTHER DAY...
YAP.
YEAH, THAT WAS SOME ADVANCED ABUSE.
AD-VANCED?
I'M... NOT SURE HOW
TO APOLO-GIZE...
I WAS JUST ENJOYING SOME BORDERLINE HEAT STROKE.
THANK YOU FOR BEING SO CREEPED OUT!
USA-KUN WAS ALSO COMPLETELY DISGUSTED.
BUT HE LEFT THIS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
USA-KUN'S FREAK SHOW POWERS HAVE EVOLVED...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO FEEL BAD FOR HIM!
HIC!
SP

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
HOW DID USA-KUN TREAT YOU?
IS USA-KUN IN THE CLASS-ROOM?
I HAVE TO TELL HIM ABOUT THE SCARY STORY I FOUND ON THE INTERNET.
AND...
HEY, GUESS WHAT.
I JUST SAW HAYASHI CARRYING WHAT LOOKED LIKE CHOCOLATE IN HER BAG!
SERIOUSLY?! WHO'S SHE GONNA GIVE IT TO?
I bet there's a ghost in there

If Usa-kun weren't around to put up with her, she'd definitely be bullied.
THAT'S GOTTA HURT.
AND THE GHOST WHISPERER HAS NO IDEA. (LOL)
ha ha ha ha
POOR FREAK SHOW.
Yeah!
Hey, wanna go there after school?
WHEN HE'S DEALING WITH HAYASHI.
NO WAY! USA-KUN LOOKS REALLY UNCOM-FORTABLE
I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM, BUT HE IS THE FREAK SHOW RING-MASTER!
USA-KUN, OF COURSE.
ugh!
MAYBE HE'LL GET EMOTIONAL AND DATE HER.
...T-TO TELL YOU ABOUT A NEW SCARY STORY...
"Z" TWITCH
HAYA-SHI?
PLUCK
UM...
I WANTED...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I WAS SO EMBARRASSED, I COULD BARELY STAY UPRIGHT.
I DIDN'T WANT TO REMEMBER.
YOU SHOULDN'T TELL THE GIRLS. YOU'LL SCARE THEM.
GO EASY ON ME. I DON'T HANDLE SCARY STUFF WELL.
BUT...
...WHAT I DID TO USA-KUN...
SHIRO-SAN! THAT'S ENOUGH...
HAYASHI?
WHAT...

what?
HAYA-SHI...
WHAT?
I...
WHAT DOES SHE WANT?
I...
I...
...
WHAT DOES SHE WANT NOW?
THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, USA-KUN.
FOR NOT IGNORING ME.
FOR BEING NICE TO ME...
THANK YOU FOR TOLERATING ME.
I'M SORRY I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF YOU.
THANK YOU.

THAT'S ENOUGH.
I'M REALLY SORRY... ABOUT THOSE MEAN THINGS I SAID.
I GOT IT.
I'M SO—
HUH?
HAH!
YOUR FACE IS A MESS.
WH-
WHERE'S THE REST-ROOM?
THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WATER-PROOF!
AAAA!
USA, YOU IDIOT!
YOU'RE SUCH A SOFTIE.
If only running her mascara had been part of her plan.
Ouu.
RIGHT, RIT-CHAN?

TYPICAL SENPAI! NOTHING CAN TEAR HER AWAY.
ARE YOU A BIGGER MASOCHIST THAN SHIRO?
HAYASHI, WHY DON'T YOU COME INSIDE?
USA-KUN,
YOU'RE TOO NICE.
SNIFFLE
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO FORGIVE ME SO EASILY?
I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I DIDN'T HARBOR ANY ILL FEELINGS.
I HAD
PEOPLE HELPING ME OUT.

IF SENPAI HADN'T SHOWN UP WHEN SHE DID...
THE DAMAGE WASN'T THAT BAD.
The damage is practically gone.
...I PROBABLY COULDN'T FORGIVE HER.
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO THEM, TOO.
Just kidding.
MAYBE I'LL GO THANK SENPAI LATER, TOO.
YOU KNOW...

Good, okay.
BUT...
NO ONE REJECTED ME.
I WAS NEVER THE TYPE TO FALL IN LOVE IF I KNEW IT WOULDN'T WORK OUT.
I ONLY AIM FOR GUYS I HAVE A GOOD CHANCE WITH.
WHOA, NOW.
BE-CAUSE...
SEEING HER AFTER SHE'S BEEN REJECTED MAKES ME WANT TO CHEER HER UP.
But I came to make fun of her.
It's nice to have simulated sparks.
Shut up!
JUST BECAUSE YOU WERE BOTH BORN WITH BETTER LOOKS...
THERE'S NO "BOTH" ABOUT IT.
I'M A LOT CUTER NOW! I DON'T WANT TO WASTE THAT!
YOU'RE NOT AS CUTE AS YOU THINK.

THERE YOU ARE.
OH.
ISN'T THIS YOURS?
OH, MY strap.
THANKS...
TH-
YOU SHOULDN'T DO STUPID THINGS TO UPSET IT.
It left you on your way back from that group date.
HAVE SUCH A WONDERFUL GUARDIAN SPIRIT.
YOU
BUT YOUR SMILE
"THANK YOU" WAS COMMENDABLE.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR GUARDIAN SPIRIT.

WHAAAT??
I DON'T GET WHAT TURNS YOU ON, AND I DON'T WANT TO KNOW!
DA-DUMP
There are a lot of issues with that statement, but you weren't even cheering her up.
Cheering her up was a waste of time.

WELCOME BACK.
HOW WAS IT?
THE CAFE HAS A PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE. YOU MUST'VE DONE A LOT OF READING.
NOT REALLY.
Aww, unusual!
OH?
DID YOU PICK A BAD BOOK?
...
WHAT?! WHERE'S SENPAI?!
SHE WAS READING A BOOK UNTIL A SECOND AGO.
SHE DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE YOU.
DID SHE LEAVE?
WITHOUT EVEN GIVING YOU A GLANCE?
CAN YOU CUT OUT THE WHISPERED JABS?

CHAPTER 3/END

CHAPTER 4

THIS PART.
IT WAS HILARIOUS!
I LIKED HOW THE TRICK TURNED OUT TO BE STUPID.
YEAH! IT WAS ELABORATE FOR NO REASON.
OH, HOW DO YOU READ THIS?
SOUNDS LIKE A PRETTY INTELLIGENT WORD.
"FURTHER-MORE."
In addition to, on top of.
WHAT'S THAT?
MAYBE I'LL USE IT.

I'M WRITING A BOOK REVIEW.
Everything is brand new!
USA'S FIRST NOVEL IS CALLED FIRST TIME.
Good work wearing your uniform again today.
THAT'S THE KIND OF SELF-SUFFICIENT LIFE I WANT.
ARE YOUR FANTASIES SO OUT OF CONTROL THAT YOU'RE WRITING EROTIC NOVELS NOW?
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU WRITING, USA-KUN?

THERE'S NO USE TALKING TO HER!
YOU'RE ALREADY TURNED ON AFTER HEARING JUST THE PHRASE "FIRST TIME"? IF YOU WERE A CAR, YOU'D GET INCREDIBLE GAS MILEAGE.
OH!
31
8月土
I'M WRITING A REVIEW OF THE BOOK I BORROWED FROM SENPAI FOR MY SUMMER HOMEWORK...

SHE'S ALL OVER CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BOOKS.
And? And?
...NOWHERE...
IF THIS CONVERSATION GOES ON, SENPAI WILL GO...

REALLY...
OH.
THE CAFE'S A LITTLE STRANGE, BUT A LOT OF OUR CUSTOMERS LOVE TO READ.
SENPAI LOOKS HAPPY.
WHAT?
THE CUSTOMERS AT THE CAFE LOVE THE BOOKS YOU SENT.
EVEN HAYASHI WAS PRETTY EXCITED.
Something about first editions...
WHAT?
HAYASHI? SHE'S STILL COMING TO THE CAFE?
SHE'S BEEN COMING A LOT BECAUSE SHE SAYS SHE LIKES THE ATMOSPHERE.
SHE READ A LOT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
Seriously?
THERE'S NO SUCH THING!
IS YOUR FREAK SHOW SPIRIT KICKING IN AGAIN?
I'M QUITTING SOON ANYWAY...
I NEED TO GET GOING!
See you later.

DON'T YOU THINK USA'S GETTING NICER AND NICER?
I didn't even...
HE WON'T BE ABLE TO QUIT.
I GUESS MASOCHISM IS INFECTIOUS WHEN YOU LIVE IN THE SAME ROOM.
They need his freak show powers to manage those weirdos.
WHAT? DOES THAT MEAN USA-KUN'S GOING TO INFECT ME AND I'LL REACH A WHOLE NEW LEVEL...?
PLEASE GET OUT OF THIS ROOM.
And don't come back
What kind of annoying sphere is this?
SHIRO-KUN,
COME OUT AND PLAY.

CHINATSU-CHAN?!
HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE. WHAT'S UP?
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE LONELY SINCE I HAVEN'T
SPENT ANY TIME WITH YOU.
DOOO

BUT I HAVE NO MATERIALS ON ME...
THUNK
MUD?
OH!
IS THAT YOUR LUNCH?
WHAT?
OH, YEAH. MAYUMI-SAN.
CAN YOU BRING ME SOME WORN-OUT PANTYHOSE?
IS THAT YOUR DINNER?
GULP!

FIDGET
RIT-CHAN LIKES THIS KIND OF STUFF MORE THAN YOU'D EXPECT.
I WANNA TRY IT!
THOSE WERE ALL THE RAGE AT ONE POINT.
THE KEY IS TO POLISH THE MUD WITH PANTY-HOSE.
SHINY MUD BALLS?!
WELL, IT CAN'T HURT TO GO BACK TO BEING A CHILD NOW AND THEN.
SMILE
BEING SURROUNDED BY SHINY THINGS CAN ONLY BE GOOD, LIKE MARRYING INTO MONEY.
NO CHILD THINKS LIKE THAT.
I'LL MAKE THE SHINIEST BALL OF ALL!
SINCE YOU'RE THE OLDEST ONE HERE,
Shut up!
FIRST, SQUEEZE THE WATER OUT OF THE MUD
BEFORE FORMING IT INTO A BALL.
SQUEEEEEZE
HUH?
DAMN.
ROLL ROLL ROLL
I CAN'T GET IT ROUND...
SQUISH
AH!

RUB GENTLY TO GET RID OF THE EXCESS DIRT.
ONCE IT'S BALLED UP, POUR DRY DIRT ON IT.
A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE TOLD ME I'M GOOD AT ROLLING BALLS.
That's weird.
When you find a good target, you press too hard and leave a mess.
SOUNDS JUST LIKE WHAT YOU DO WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE!
WHOA!
DAMN IT... I PRESSED TOO HARD.
GOUGU
I'M ALSO GOOD AT GETTING THE BALLS INTO THE BASKET.
NAH, THE BALLS DON'T FIT.
Ha ha ha
NIGHTTIME EXERCISE USUALLY INVOLVES SMALLER BALLS.
Huh...
IT WAS A HUGE BALL.
LOTS OF PEOPLE PRAISED ME
AT MY SCHOOL'S BALL ROLLING EVENT, TOO.

WHEN USA-KUN ISN'T HERE, EVERYONE GETS OUT OF CONTROL.
Abort Mission!
ONCE THE BALLS ARE NICE AND ROUND,
WRAP THEM IN PLASTIC AND LET THEM SIT FOR A WHILE.
BALLS: RITSU, MAYUMI, SHIRO, CHINATSU, SHIRO
IS SUMIKO-SAN OUT?
Thanks for the food.
SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING OUT TO SEE A FRIEND.
WHAT ABOUT USA-KUN AND SAYAKA-SAN?
USA-KUN'S WORKING.
SAYAKA-CHAN IS... AT HOME, I THINK.
I wish I had a boyfriend!
SHE'S PROBABLY WITH A MAN.
SHE'S ON A DATE WITH HER BOY-FRIEND?!
LUCKY HER!
NO, SHE DOESN'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND SHE JUST GOES FROM ONE MAN TO THE NEXT...
SO SHE'S REALLY POPULAR.
NO! I'M MORE POPULAR.
Take off the plastic and...
OH.

MAYUMI-SAN, YOUR BALL CRACKED.
WIDE OPEN.
WHAT?!
I'll give you the one I had Shiro-kun make.
RUB FINE SAND OVER THE SURFACE.
AND THEY'RE ALMOST DONE.
what? I didn't know about that...
NEXT, THE MOMENT YOU'VE WAITED FOR:
IF YOU DON'T HAVE PANTYHOSE, YOU CAN USE TRACKSUITS OR REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS INSTEAD!
IT'S INCREDIBLY DISGUSTING HOW YOU REFUSE TO SHORTEN IT TO "STOCKINGS" OR "HOSE."
POLISHING THEM WITH PANTYHOSE UNTIL THEY SHINE!
OH,
IT'S GETTING SHINY!
A DATE, HUH...
POLISH POLISH
POLISH POLISH

LONER-SENPAI, WHY DON'T YOU GO ON A DATE WITH USA-KUN?
THUNK
チラ
チラ
"What a nice hall."
A DATE...?
WH-WHY?
TREMBLE
YOU'RE NOT DATING?
NO!
WHY'D YOU SKIP ME?
HEY, WHY'D YOU SKIP ME?
BUT YOU LIVE TOGETHER.
DON'T PUT IT LIKE THAT!
IN TV SHOWS, COUPLES GET TOGETHER JUST BY SEEING FIREWORKS.
WE HAVEN'T SEEN FIRE-WORKS.
THAT'S NOT MY POINT.
NEITHER OF US IS INTERESTED IN A RELA-TIONSHIP...
RUB RUB
REALLY? BUT...
THAT'S NOT HOW USA-KUN FEELS, IS IT?

I'M POSITIVE THAT HE LIKES YOU.
HE SEEMS REALLY
INTEREST-ED IN YOU.
I'M REALLY SHARP WHEN IT COMES TO THAT STUFF.
SHE...
SHE SAID IT...!!
Just like that.
...
EVEN SAYAKA HAS NEVER COME OUT AND SAID THE WORDS.
SADISTIC GRADE SCHOOL GIRLS ARE SCARY.

...USED TO TAKING CARE OF...
...PEOPLE WHO ARE A LITTLE STRANGE.
YOU'RE WRONG.
USA-KUN IS... HE'S JUST...
HE COULD LEAVE THEM ALONE, BUT HE DOESN'T.
INSTEAD, HE TAKES CARE OF THEM.
THAT'S NORMAL FOR USA-KUN,
SINCE HE'S SO NICE.

RUB
RUB
RUB
I'M NOT SPECIAL TO HIM OR ANYTHING.
RIT-CHAN...
HE HELPS STRANGE PEOPLE SO MUCH, HE'S NICKNAMED FREAK SHOW.
WHAT?
ARE YOU SURE?
YES.
I guess I don't know the details.
HE'S TAKING CARE OF ANOTHER GIRL WHERE HE WORKS.
YOU'RE SUCH A PAIN!!
HE'S SO OBVIOUS ABOUT IT.
JUST ACCEPT THAT HE LIKES YOU.
SHE WORRIES TOO MUCH ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS. IS IT BECAUSE SHE READS SO MUCH?
SHE'S LIVING IN HER OWN WORLD.
Sayaka was right

OH.
SO YOU'RE JEALOUS.
ぎゅっ
TWINK
WHAT?
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE MAD BECAUSE HE'S JUST AS NICE TO OTHER GIRLS.
I NEVER SAID ANYTHING OF THE SORT.
SO
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF USA-KUN AND I STARTED DATING?
とっ
POINT
WHAAT?!
WH-WHA?!
BLUSH

CALL THE POLICE...
Oh Mayumi-san.
WHAT IF HE DATED MAYUMI-SAN?
CALL THE POLICE...
Oh Usa-kun.
HEY... CUT IT OUT. THINK OF HOW OTHER PEOPLE FEEL!
JEEZ! YOU'RE SO STUBBORN.
Thank You.
Come on.
Come on.
YOU WANT HER TO CONSIDER HOW YOU FEEL!
IF YOU MAKE HER WEIRDLY CONSCIOUS OF IT BY PUSHING HER AND THIS TURNS INTO A SAPPY TEEN ROM-COM, I WON'T BE LAUGHING. STOP THAT.
Right?

I'M BACK.
CHINATSU-CHAN?
LONG TIME, NO SEE...
USA, WAS HAYASHI THERE TODAY?
?
THE SADIST GIRL SEEMS AWFULLY QUIET...
SHE WAS. SHE MUST HAVE A LOT OF FREE TIME.
WHY DO YOU ASK?
WELL, RIT-CHAN...
WHAT?
It's hot.
SENPAI, IS SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU?

NO.
WHAT?
?!
?!
HMPH
UM,
SENPAI?
WHAT WERE YOU ACTUALLY DOING?
...RUBBING SOME BALLS AND RIPPING PANTYHOSE.
OH, WE WERE JUST...
WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
WHAT?
WHY?

TOO BAD FOR YOU, USA...
HUH?
IF YOU HAD COME BACK AN HOUR EARLIER, YOU COULD'VE ENJOYED YOUR YOUTH WITH A BLUSHING RIT-CHAN.
ONCE YOU GROW UP, YOU FORGET A LOT OF THINGS.
SMILE
THIS WAS A GOOD REMINDER...
GIRLS IN GRADE SCHOOL GET SO BLINDLY EXCITED ABOUT LOVE, IT'S BEYOND ANNOYING!
Like this...
IT MAKES YOU SO MAD, YOU EVEN GET SICK OF THE GUY THE RUMOR WAS ABOUT!
Hey, there he is!
I can tell.
You like him, don't you?
Why don't you talk to him?
Come on.
I pushed her too hard. Tee-hee! ☆
I'M BACK.
OH! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.
SUMIKO-SAN, YOU SMELL NICE.
YES! THAT'S BECAUSE...
I never knew it felt so good to watch someone else have their youth ruined without getting my own hands dirty!

SHE GAVE ME THE LEFTOVER DOUGH. WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE ONE?
HOW CUTE!
Mini bread.
IT'S FUN, LIKE PLAYING WITH CLAY.
It'll last about a year.
MY FRIEND WAS TEACHING ME TO MAKE DECORATIVE BREAD!

I ACCEPT YOUR CUT-AND-RUN WITH PLEASURE!
Woohoo!
ON SECOND THOUGHT, SHINY MUD BALLS ARE A THING OF THE PAST, AND THEY'RE NOT CUTE.
THIS CAN BE MY SUMMER ART PROJECT!
I WANNA TRY!

CHAPTER 4/END

CHAPTER 5

HOW CUTE.
ARE YOU DOG LOVERS OR CAT LOVERS?
TEXT 'LOVE IT' POPULARITY RANKING DOGGY EDITION
I'M A TOTAL CAT PERSON! I LIKE IT BEST WHEN THEY REALLY HATE MY GUTS, UT OCCASIONALLY ROACH ME, ONLY O DASH MY HOPES!
I'M MORE OF A DOG PERSON.
ARE PETS ALLOWED AT THE KAWAI COMPLEX?
THERE ISN'T A RULE BANNING THEM...

I'M NEVER GONNA HAVE A PET!!
WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?
WHEN A SINGLE PERSON GETS A PET, THEY END UP CONTENT WITH IT, AND CAN NO LONGER
FACE THE REALITY THAT THEY ARE STILL ALONE...
THEY BECOME OBSESSED WITH THEIR PET'S FOOD AND CLOTHES.
THEY START SPENDING MORE MONEY ON THEIR PET THAN THEMSELVES.
ALL THEIR PICTURES ON THEIR PHONE ARE OF THEIR PET.
The only exciting thing that happened recently is your hair getting burnt.
HOW SPECIFIC...
I THINK YOU SHOULD GET A PET.
Are you sure?
WHAT?
IF I HAD A PET, I'D WANT A DOG...
BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO WALK IT.
THEN
HOW ABOUT A RABBIT?
IF YOU FELT A LITTLE MORE CONTENT, MAYBE YOU'D STOP JUMPING EVERY MAN YOU SEE.
URGH

ONE OF MY FRIENDS HAS A PET RABBIT, AND IT'S ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE.
A RABBIT, HUH... THAT COULD WORK!
IF I FEEL CONTENT, MAYBE I CAN FIND A GOOD MAN..
...
MAYUMI-SAN, I'M SORRY.
I'M AGAINST THIS AFTER ALL.
WHAT?!
I FORGOT IT'S MORE CRUCIAL TO CONSIDER WHETHER YOU'LL HAVE ANY MEN LEFT TO CHOOSE FROM BY THE TIME YOU FEEL CONTENT...
Yes, Kyouji, I need to start an offensive...
SENPAI, ARE YOU A DOG OR CAT PERSON?
...
UM...

WHAT? YEAH...
So-mebo-dy.
RIT-CHAN, YOU ONCE MENTIONED YOU LIKE BIG DOGS.
REALLY? LIKE LABS?
YEAH.. ONCE...

I SEE...
IT'S BEEN KIND OF AWKWARD BETWEEN US
...
I LIKE BOTH.
FLUSH
SINCE THAT INCIDENT.
WHY?

USA-KUN IS LIKE A BIG DOG, RIGHT?
HEY.
My current weight is... Forty-so-mo-

...IN THE LEAST!
NOT...
CLATTER
HUH?
WHY...
DON'T TWIST HER WORDS!
You're not even in the same league as a dog.
You've never even seafed before.
Grrr!
Usa isn't like a big dog.
I like big dogs.

I WAS JUST SPEAKING MY MIND.
The situation seemed amusing, so I said that to amuse myself.
YOU'RE BROADCASTING YOUR TRUE MOTIVE!
AT LEAST YOU GOT HER ATTENTION, RIGHT?
In a bad way.
THERE IT IS AGAIN!
SHE MIGHT NOT BE WHOLLY WRONG, THOUGH.
It's not all bad.
YOU THINK SO?
DON'T YOU THINK "WHOLLY" SOUNDS DIRTY?
RUST AWAY.
I WAS SO CLOSE TO HAVING A NORMAL CONVERSATION WITH HER.
Moments like there are when I'm glad you're a nasty person.
AND I CAN'T RETALIATE...
DAMN IT.
EXCUSE ME!
...BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW ANY OF SAYAKA-SAN'S WEAKNESSES...
MY NAME IS TSUNEDA MIHARU!

DOES A WATANABE SAYAKA-SAN...
TSU-NEKO?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...
THERE'S A HIGH SCHOOL REUNION IN THE AREA TOMORROW.
I FIGURED I'D SEE WHERE YOU'RE LIVING NOW.
OKAY, YOU'VE SEEN IT. TIME TO GO.
CAN I SPEND THE NIGHT?
YOU LISTEN TO ME! AND YOU CAN'T ASK TO SPEND THE NIGHT OUT OF NOWHERE!
BUT IF I'D ASKED FIRST, YOU WOULD'VE SAID NO.
You wouldn't tell me your address, so I had to ask your mom.
NABU-CHAN.
IT'S BOILING OUTSIDE.
Boiling Hot

NA (LOL)-BE (LOLOL)-CHAN (LOLOLOL).
I'VE NEVER MET ONE OF SAYAKA-CHAN'S FRIENDS BEFORE.
COME ON IN.
WAIT...
NABE-CHAN'S ROOM IS OVER THERE.
WELCOME TO THE KAWAI COMPLEX.
SAYAKA-SAN HAS A FRIEND.
HEY,
THAT NAIL BAT.
IT'S THE ONE NABE-CHAN USED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
THAT BRINGS BACK MEMO-RIES.
SHE'S NOTHING LIKE HER.
SHE ACTUALLY USED THAT?!
OH, NOT ON PEOPLE.

Affinity...
SHOULD I TAKE TSUNE-CHAN'S LUGGAGE TO SAYAKA-CHAN'S ROOM?
WHAT?!
AND MY ROOM'S MESSY! THERE'S NO SPACE!
I NEVER SAID SHE COULD STAY!
OH, DEAR. TSUNEDA-SAN HAS SOME BIZARRE DREAMS. ARE YOU CONFUSING THEM WITH REALITY?
SHE JUST USED IT TO DESTROY A SHED.
THEY USED TO LOCK HER UP IN IT AS PUNISHMENT FOR—
MMMPH!
I-I detect the faint scent of a kindred spirit!
Shut up!
shed?
WOW, TSUNEDA-SAN, YOUR BUMPKIN DIALECT IS SHOWING. WE CALL THOSE "STUFFED ANIMALS" IN THE CITY.
I DON'T MIND IF THERE'S A BUNCH OF HOMO COMICS LYING AROUND.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SHUT UP.
I'M TALKING ABOUT COMICS IN WHICH MEN ENGAGE IN PASSIONATE ACTS OF LOVE WITH OTHER MEN.
SORRY, I SHOULD HAVE PUT IT A DIFFERENT WAY.
It means stuffed animals. Got a problem?
H-Homo comics...?
TWITCH

THIS
THIS PERSON
Your mom was always so uncomfortable cleaning your room.
YOU WERE SO INTO THEM IN HIGH SCHOOL
YOU DON'T COLLECT THEM ANY-MORE?
SHE'S LIKE A BOX OF SAYAKA-SAN'S WEAKNESSES.
?
HEY!
GO HOME!
LET'S HAVE A DRINK AND HEAR SOME STO-RIES ABOUT NABE-CHAN (LOL).
YOU MUST BE TIRED. COME SIT IN THE LIVING ROOM.
DRIVING AWAY YOUR FRIEND MAKES ME SO SAD AS YOUR MANAGER... IT MAKES ME WANT TO FEED YOU CAT FOOD FOR DINNER.
AS THE OWNER'S RELATIVE, IT MAKES ME WANT TO RAISE YOUR RENT.
You should be nice to her.
Rit-chan, when did you get here...

SO EVERYONE CALLED US "NABE-TSUNE."
NA (LOL)-BE (LOL)-TSU (LOL)-NE (LOLOLOL).
Sounds like someone gave you a nickname and it stuck.
ARE YOU CHILDHOOD FRIENDS?
Haven't laughed yet...
Hmm...
WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE OUR SECOND YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, SO I DUNNO.
HOLD ON. I'M ALL FOR STORIES I CAN USE TO MAKE FUN OF SAYAKA...
...BUT I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY STORIES THAT MAKE HER SOUND GOOD.
WHAT?
SOME PLUMB NASTY UPPERCLASS-MEN WERE GIVING ME A HARD TIME,
AND NABE-CHAN SAVED ME.
Plumb = Very

WHAT DID YOU DO TO GET LOCKED UP IN A SHED?
I want to try the same thing.
M-MY PARENTS WERE VERY STRICT.
SHHLLEEP
M
MO MO
Sakiko Block!
Who the hell are you?
watanabe-san.
I LOVE HOW PATHETIC THAT TURNED OUT TO BE!
DON'T WORRY.
WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED WAS THAT THE UPPERCLASSMEN GOT SCARED AND RAN AFTER SEEING NABE-CHAN RIGHT AFTER SHE ESCAPED FROM THE SHED.
YOU PROBABLY DID SOMETHING REALLY EVIL.
No.
SHE TOOK EGGS FROM A RELATIVE'S CHICKEN COOP TO MAKE SLOW-COOKED EGGS
AND SELL THEM FOR 50 YEN EACH.
A FAIR PRICE!
WOW, SHE'S TOTALLY FREAK SHOW TERRITORY! USA, YOU'RE UP!
SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT YEARBOOKS ARE.
NO, SHE CHANGED SUDDENLY IN OUR THIRD YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL...
No.
You'll pay for this.
DID THIS SAYAKA MASK MAKE ITS DEBUT IN HIGH SCHOOL? OR WAS IT IN COLLEGE?

SMILE
I USED TO GET CALLS FROM GUYS TELLING ME TO LOOK AT OUR YEAR-BOOK.
DWELLING ON YOUR GLORY DAYS WILL ONLY BRING YOU PAIN IN THE FUTURE, SO YOU SHOULD JUST FORGET IT.
DID YOU SAY SOME-THING, NABE-CHAN?
BUT I UNDER-STAND NOW.
YEAH, THEY SURE ARE IM-PORTANT.
HM... THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
...I REALIZED HOW SMART NABE-CHAN WAS WHEN I SAW
Before
After
BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES OF CELEBRITIES ONLINE.
YOU'RE A GENIUS, SAYAKA-CHAN!
IF THEY BRING OUT GRADE SCHOOL PICTURES, YOU CAN BLAME IT ON A GROWTH SPURT.
He looks so happy.
I HAD SO MUCH FUN WHEN I WAS WITH NABE-CHAN.
I...

I FEEL LIKE I MADE A MISTAKE.
I'M GLAD WE BECAME FRIENDS!
I WISH WE'D GONE TO HIGH SCHOOL TOGETHER.
I ENDED UP GOING TO AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL FAR AWAY.
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE TOMORROW...
THEN YOU WENT TO A UNIVERSITY THAT WAS EVEN FARTHER AWAY.
DURING BREAKS, YOU WERE BUSY WITH YOUR BOYFRIENDS AND GIRLFRIENDS AND BL.
What? A girls school?!
Hardly a match.

#uh?
Did she just...
were we imagining things?
WHOA?!
SNORE
SHE FINALLY PASSED OUT...
SHE DOESN'T HOLD HER LIQUOR VERY WELL. WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT TOMORROW?
SHE JUST GETS TIRED QUICKLY, BUT SHE NEVER REMEMBERS.
Was that my imagination?
You know her well.
WE'RE NOT THAT CLOSE.
YOU TWO ARE REALLY CLOSE.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS
And you're an awful person.
YOU SAID DEALING WITH OTHER GIRLS WAS A PAIN
IT IS A PAIN.
I brought a futon.
THEY DON'T LISTEN.
SQUEEZE
THEY'RE SHAMELESS, AND THEY NEVER SHUT UP.
THAT'S WHY SHE'S
ALL I CAN HANDLE.
From now on I'm calling Mashiumi-ish star and Rit-chan Peppara.
Really gross!
It's kind of gross when you say that.

TSUNEKO, WAKE UP!
BUT IT'S STILL SO EARLY...
YOU HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL REUNION TODAY, DON'T YOU?
HUH?
I'LL DO YOUR MAKEUP.
TSUNE.
TSU-NEKO.
YOU'LL PROBABLY RUN INTO PEOPLE YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE, RIGHT?
WHAT?
HOW DID YOU...
I JUST KNOW.
GO WASH YOUR FACE.
WITH YOUR FACE, THIS IS GONNA TAKE MORE THAN A COUPLE OF HOURS.
LOOK SHARP.
THAT WAS HARSH, NABE-CHAN!

THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME.
WHO IS SHE?
Aww cute. Is your reunion an after party?
I don't know why they invited me. I've requested to attend the reunion.
CAN I COME BACK AGAIN SOMETIME?
OF COURSE NOT.
OKAY.
I'LL BE WAITING.
I'LL CALL YOU WHEN YOU GET HOME.

THANKS FOR CARRYING MY BAG.
NO PROBLEM
THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A TOUCHING MOMENT, BUT IT'S COMPLETELY OVERSHADOWED BY HER TRANSFORMATION.
Wizard Sayaka's making it incredible.
She's like Hagrid...
But I was just home recently, so it wasn't be anytime soon.
what?
YOU KNOW, THE ONES NABE-CHAN IS SCARED OF...
YOU-KNOW-WHATS?
THERE ARE MOUNTAINS NEARBY. DO ANY YOU-KNOW-WHATS SHOW UP?
WHAT?
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
SAYAKA-CHAN, ARE YOU AWAKE?
HUH...?

WHAT...?
I'M TAKING CARE OF A PET FOR THE FRIEND I MENTIONED THE OTHER DAY.
I accidentally let it out of its cage.
AND I THINK IT WENT INSIDE YOUR ROOM.
IT'S ADORABLE, WITH LONG EARS...
AAAAAHHH
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
I DIDN'T BELIEVE USA-KUN WHEN HE FIRST TOLD ME...

...OF RABBITS.
...BUT YOU REALLY ARE SCARED...
All I showed you was its shadow. I didn't even get inside your room.
I'M ALREADY CRYING.
I LEARNED ONE OF SAYAKA-SAN'S WEAK-NESSES.
IF YOU TELL MAYUMI-SAN ABOUT THIS, I'LL DO THINGS TO MAKE YOU CRY.

CHAPTER 5/END

SHIRO-SAN AND ME 9

SHIRO-SAN AND ME 10

130 ft PLUNK
THAT'S IT... MOVE IT QUICKLY.
Personality Change
? HEH HEH HEH HEH ?
Urrrgh.
IF YOU MOVE THAT, EARTH WILL BE DE-STROYED...
FORGET WHAT I SAID! NO ONE'S GONNA BE DE-STROYED!
AAAH! IT MOVED!
SORRY.
KEEP IT DOWN.
Opening the door knocked it over

CHAPTER 6

SENPAI!
PANT
IT'S TIME TO GO.
You'll be late for Sumiko-san's dinner.
I KEPT CALLING YOU, BUT YOU DIDN'T NOTICE... THAT BOOK MUST BE REALLY GOOD.
YEAH... IT MIGHT BE IN THIS YEAR'S TOP TWO.
I with the most like Natsume Hayato san I like.
REALLY?
IS IT HEAVY READING?
TOO MUCH FOR ME?
TOO MUCH.
PRETTY HEAVY
Hide Uh, yeah.
Usa-kun, are you on library duty?
Of course he isn't.

YOU DON'T MIND IF I READ, DO YOU...?
I GUESS NOT.
HAVING SAID THAT...
SENPAI, IT'S RED.
GRAB
AND TOUCHING HER SHOULDERS AND BACK...
SENPAI, IT'S GREEN.
PAT
I GET TO SEE UP CLOSE HOW SHE LOOKS WHEN SHE'S ABSORBED.
SLOWLY...
I can't pull away!
SHE'S SO SLENDER.
This reminds me of those summer urges...
Searching for reads with lots of stop-lights...
Uh, oh... I'm starting to be like Shiro-san...
...MAKES ME SO HAPPY.

I WISH SHE WEARE ALWAYS
CLOSE ENOUGH TO REACH OUT AND TOUCH
WE'RE BACK.
Oh, good. we didn't miss dinner. You're hopeless, Senpai.

HUH?
WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE AN EMPLOYEE AND THE BOSS WHO SEXUALLY HARASSES HER?
WHAT?!

S...
SEN-PAI?
WHAT...
Oh!
IS IT
BECAUSE I TOUCHED YOU?

...AND I GOT TO A HEART-WRENCHING SCENE...
THIS BOOK IS SO GOOD...
Like Onitsuka?
Hey, it's set in England...
A HISTORICAL NOVEL.
WHAT KIND OF BOOK IS IT?
Guess.
Uwa-hun's gonna almost crushed up in the package.
STRAY BULLETS FROM MAYUMI-SAN PACK A REAL PUNCH.
IF YOU KNEW, WHY DID YOU DO THIS?
THAT'S WHAT I FIGURED.
I wish more would hit me.
SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T LIKE EXPLAINING BOOKS BEFORE.
BUT SHE SEEMS TO ENJOY MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS
AND SHARING OPINIONS WITH PEOPLE WHO RELATE.
I let you sit at the counter.
If you're gonna fantasize about sex, help me organize the shelves.
返却BOX

SHE MUST REALLY ENJOY IT.
JUST LOOK AT HOW ABSORBED SHE IS.
KAWAI-SAN.
IF I WERE A MORE EXPERIENCED READER
AND COULD EASILY TALK TO HER ABOUT MORE ADVANCED GENRES...
Huh?
OH.
NO, SHE'S NOT IGNORING YOU.
SO DO I...
YOU WERE HERE YESTERDAY, TOO.
!
AND YOU'RE ALWAYS READING IN THE CLASSROOM.
YOU MUST LOVE BOOKS.
SENPAI'S CLASSMATE?!
SENPAI IS ACTUALLY...

TAGAMI-KUN!! PUT THIS BOOK AWAY!!
JUMP
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
SHUT UP, USA!
Don't use the cart for just one book!
?
?
THAT SCARED ME.
MAE-MURA-SAN?
OH... LISTEN, I LOVE BOOKS, TOO.
DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOM-MENDA-TIONS?
WHAT?
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT BOOKS.

WHAT ARE YOU READING RIGHT NOW?
well
IT TAKES PLACE IN ENGLAND DURING WORLD WAR I.
OH, IT'S A MILITARY STORY?
IT'S MORE OF AN ENSEMBLE CAST STORY THAT FOLLOWS THIS COUNT'S FAMILY.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A SETTING I'D LOVE!
I'm the second one now.
I HAVE THE FIRST BOOK RIGHT HERE.
I'LL BORROW IT, THEN.
I USUALLY READ ROMANCE NOVELS, SO THIS WILL BE NEW.
OH, I RECOMMEND...
Can I go now?
OH.
WHOA.

I wish the footman and the noble lady would elope
What? I don't remember anything like that.
I imagined it.
R...
REALLY?
And the British Empire setting is always great.
I LOVE THE MASTER-SERVANT RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERIOD.
THE BOOK YOU RECOMMENDED
WAS GREAT!
You read it already? That was quick.
It was exciting.
I FOUND THE BOOK YOU RECOMMENDED... VERY MOVING.
IT'S CLICHÉ, BUT GREAT, RIGHT?
I DON'T USUALLY READ ROMANCE, SO IT WAS NEW.
It's important to experience different genres sometimes.
You're right.
AH!
WE'RE IN A DIFFERENT CLASSROOM NEXT PERIOD.
LET'S GO TOGETHER.
Oh.
OKAY.

SE...
I'm gonna be late to cram school
I HAVE TO GO.
THEN I'LL SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW...
KAWAI-SAN, ARE YOU DOING ANYTHING AFTER THIS?
NOT REALLY...
WANNA GO HOME TOGETHER, THEN?
Come on.
SHE LOOKS SO HAPPY.
THAT'S GREAT...
SENPAI'S GUSHING WITH A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.
I mean, Senpai's also a high school girl, but...

SEXUAL HARASSMENT
MY BONDING TIME WITH SENPAI...
SURE, OKAY.
LET'S GO
Can you stop pressing up against my muscles?
You're like that?
IF YOU LIVE NORTH OF THE RIVER DOES THAT MEAN YOU WENT TO A MIDDLE SCHOOL?
NO! I ATTENDED IR MIDDLE
ISN'T THAT FAR FROM THE STATION?
You can make it to school from over there, right?
WELL... I LIVE IN AN APARTMENT COMPLEX
I LIVE ALONE... ACTUALLY, IT'S MORE LIKE A BOARDING HOUSE
DID YOU MOVE? DO YOU LIVE ALONE?
WOW. COOL BUT WHY?
MY MOM WORKS OVER-SEAS.
where overseas?
Really? Sorry
Awesome! You should've gone with her
America.
It's okay
SHE
SHE KEEPS ASKING QUESTIONS
YOUR DAD, TOO?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR DAD?
NO JUST MY MOM
OH... MY PARENTS ARE DIVORCED

WOW.
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ANY OF THEM?
A BOARDING HOUSE, HUH... YOU'RE LUCKY. I WISH I COULD LIVE THERE.
YEAH...
ARE THERE ANY GUYS?
IS THIS NORMAL?
USA-KUN DIDN'T DWELL ON THE SUBJECT.
I'M NOT FOLLOWING HER OR ANYTHING. WE WALK THE SAME WAY.
ABSOLUTELY NOT! NOT HAPPENING! OUT OF THE QUESTION! NEVER!
NO!
I-IT'S NOT THAT GREAT.
JUST A QUICK LOOK.
Come on♡
HEY, CAN I DROP BY?
I'M REALLY CURIOUS NOW.
WHAT?

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT FARMING TOOLS.
I SHOULD TAKE A SHOWER BEFORE MY DATE TONIGHT AND WASH OFF THE BLOOD I'M ABOUT TO BEAT OUT OF YOU.
"Please harvest me"? No, "Reap me"...?
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT S&M PLAY USING FARMING TOOLS, SAYAKA-CHAN?
SCRATCH SCRATCH
THAT'S GOOD.
NOTHING LIKE A BEER AFTER A LONG DAY AT WORK!
BURP
ALSO, I'M SERIOUSLY IN THE MOOD TO TIE SOMEONE UP IN MY ROOM RIGHT NOW.
I'm so frustrated I'm dripping sweat.
I JUST SAW A BUNCH OF STUDS WALKING OUT OF AN INN, AND IT TURNED OUT TO BE A SOCIAL EVENT FOR SINGLE DOCTORS. MAN, HOW FRUSTRATING.
ARE ALL DOCTORS SUPPOSED TO BE HANDSOME?
MAN...
IS SHE YOUR FRIEND?
OH, RIT-CHAN.

You don't need to promote yourself!
USA-KUN, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO STAY HERE?
IT'S FINE.
Hey.
WHERE ARE THE BOYS?
I wanna see them. Are they around?
WH-
WHO KNOWS?
THEY'RE SO PRETTY.
We're off to take a walk around that inn.
Later!
SENPAI PROBABLY DOESN'T WANT HER CLASSMATE TO KNOW WE LIVE TOGETHER.
SHOVE
If I went outside right now, I'd definitely get their attention.
I'LL SEND YOU MY NUMBER!
NOT THAT I DIDN'T KNOW,
COME TO THINK OF IT, I LOST TO SOMEONE
SHE'D NEVER SPOKEN TO UNTIL YESTERDAY..
BUT I GUESS I REALLY MEAN NOTHING TO SENPAI.
RING
RING

Despite being a high school girl
SHE'S SUCH A SLOW TYPER.
SHUT UP.
TAP TAP TAP TAP
a butler appeared. Yes, so cool. Kyun. The housekeeper Anne is really supportive and sorry... but
I'VE NEVER HEARD RIT-CHAN'S E-MAIL RINGTONE BEFORE.
WHOSE WAS THAT?
WHAT? RIT-CHAN?!
Hot ♪
send
Send
A FOLLOW-UP MESSAGE?!
Kyun ♪
ou're right. I think that
Send
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
OH. mixed up.
URGH.
USA.
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
Oh.
Send
what?!
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP

HOLD ON... I'M NOT READY YET... DON'T COME INSIDE (MY INBOX).
AS SHALLOW AS YOU ARE, THERE'S NO LIMIT TO HOW VULGAR YOU CAN BE.
HER CHEEKS ARE FLUSHED AS SHE FUMBLES WITH INEXPERIENCED FINGERS AND RELEASES INTERMITTENT GASPS... THE IMAGINATION OF A VIRGIN HAS NO LIMITS.
STOP TALKING!
Can't stand anymore
Now you're thinking oral?
Someone help!

DING DONG
キーンコーン
カーンコーン
LET'S GO TO THE REST-ROOM.
LET'S GO TO THE REST-ROOM.
DING DONG
Restroom.
You're taking a while to respond. I don't bother you? But there's so much I want to talk about... (y)
TAP
TAP
TAP
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER.

TAP
TAP
TAP
Let's go to the restroom.
LET'S GO TO SCHOOL TOGETHER IN THE MORNING
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
WITH EXPERIENCED MOTIONS AND A LACK OF ENTHUSIASM, SHE DOES IT OVER AND OVER...
SHUT UP!
Don't you see how exhausted Rif-chan is? You animal.
I told you to shut up!
THAT'S ONE OF HER BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR.
SHE HASN'T MADE ANY PROG-RESS...
IF THAT'S WHAT SENPAI WANTS, THEN IT'S OKAY.
BUT...

we met online.
YOU SHOULD COME ALONG.
THERE'S A GATHERING FOR BOOK LOVERS.
RIT-CHAN, ARE YOU FREE SATURDAY?
BUT...
WHEN I TOLD THEM ABOUT YOU, THEY WANTED TO MEET YOU.
IT'S OKAY! THEY'RE ALL NICE PEOPLE.
I'M... SHY AROUND NEW PEOPLE.
RIT-CHAN, OVER HERE!
I'LL MEET YOU AT THE LIBRARY!
WE ALL SHARE THE SAME INTERESTS, SO IT'LL BE FUN!

Hello.
This is Kawai Rit-chan. Nice to meet you.
HELLO...
TURN
WHAT?
LET'S GO!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO THE LIBRARY?
WE'RE GONNA GO SHOPPING, AND THEN MEET UP WITH THE OTHERS!
OH, RIGHT.
WE CAN'T TALK IN THE LIBRARY.
ARE WE GOING TO SOMEONE'S HOUSE OR A CAFE?
IT'S PROBABLY TIME TO BREAK UP WITH MY CURRENT BOYFRIEND.
He's persistent.

I'M BACK.
Just imagine!
Shut up
RIT-CHAN ISN'T HERE.
SHE'S OUT WITH HER FRIENDS.
SO THAT REALLY WAS RIT-CHAN WHO I SAW BY THE STATION.
WHAT?
She was in a group, so I thought it was someone else.
SHE WAS MEETING SOME GIRLS WHO LIKE BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY...
THERE WERE BOYS, TOO.
AND THEY WERE HEADING TOWARDS...

SENPAI, THAT'S...
Sure.
Want something to eat?
Oh, and this...
?
!?
!?!
Sing it.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DRINK?
I PUT IN AN ANIME SONG.
CAN WE HAVE LIQUOR?
Ha ha seriously?
Apparently it's a riot
WHAT'S THE TITLE OF THAT DRAMA SONG?
OH, THAT.
In that case
...A MIXER!!
CHAPTER 6/END

CHAPTER 7

HEY.
BA-DUMP
I'M FINE...
AREN'T YOU GONNA SING?
YOU'RE NO FUN. DIDN'T YOU COME HERE TO MEET SOMEONE?
NO ONE TOLD ME IT WAS A MIXER.
OH, I GET IT.
PICK SOME-THING.
IF YOU'RE TOO EMBAR-RASSED, I'LL SING WITH YOU.
YANK
LET GO OF ME!
HEY...
IF YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT...
...YOU'LL MAKE ME WANT TO TEASE YOU MORE.
NO...
NO!

WHAT IF SOME-THING LIKE THAT HAP-PENS...?!
THE GUY TURNED INTO YOU TOWARDS THE END.
HE HAS 108 DIFFERENT FANTASIES INVOLVING SEXUAL HARASSMENT.
Ha...
I don't want to see Senpai with other girls even in my fantasies.
I HAVE TO GO SAVE HER!
BUT YOU'RE NOT EVEN HER BOY-FRIEND.
What?
B-BUT I'M SURE SENPAI'S IN TROU-BLE...
URGH
ARE YOU SURE?
SHE'S A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. SHE CAN HANDLE SOME KARAOKE HERSELF.
Even if she does have trouble talking to people.
MAYBE SHE LIED AND SAID SHE WAS MEETING GIRLFRIENDS BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW SHE WAS GOING TO A MIXER.
...
THAT'S NOT...

AM I CLOSE ENOUGH TO SENPAI TO SAY THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE?
I DON'T THINK SHE WOULD'VE GONE IF SHE'D KNOWN IT WAS A MIXER.
Y...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I SHOULD GO SAVE...
SHE DIDN'T KNOW WHEN SHE LEFT...
...BUT JUST IMAGINE IF SHE'S ACTUALLY GETTING ALONG WITH SOMEONE AND YOU DIS-APPOINT HER WHEN YOU BARGE IN WITH A TRIUMPHANT LOOK ON YOUR FACE.
PAPAPA!!
WAIT... THAT UNBEARABLE SITUATION WOULD BE WASTED ON A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
IF ONLY HERMIT CRABS WOULD TAKE UP RESIDENCE IN YOUR NOSE.
I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT SENPAI...
AND YOU DON'T WANT ANOTHER MAN TO HAVE HER?
IT'S URGH
YOUR ATTEMPT TO SAVE HER MIGHT ACTUALLY RUIN HER RELATIONSHIP WITH HER FRIENDS.
YOU'RE NOT THINKING HARD ENOUGH.
URGH

UM, FIRST...
AFTER ALL, THEY SAID, THAT'S THEIR CONCLUSION...
Sigh
Sigh
IT'S THE KARAOKE SPOT BY THE STATION, RIGHT? LET'S GO.
SHE PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW AND WANTS TO GET OUT OF THERE, THOUGH.
HEY,
AREN'T YOU GONNA SING?
IT IS.
DESPITE APPEARANCES, EVERYONE HERE READS A LOT OF BOOKS
I THOUGHT THIS WAS A GATHERING FOR BOOK LOVERS.
MAE-MURA-SAN.
Have some tea.
RIT-CHAN, ARE YOU NER-VOUS?
DON'T MIND ME.
Go ahead.
Go ahead.

WHAT?
DO I NOT LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO READS BOOKS?
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE A PLAYER, MITSUI.
SO MEAN.
BUT MITSUI'S ALSO A FAN OF THE ASSORTED CRIMES OF COUNT BAILEY.
THE BOOK YOU RECOMMENDED.
WHAT?
IT WAS REALLY INTERESTING DESPITE ALL THE DEPRESSING DEVELOPMENTS
ESPECIALLY AFTER IT WAS REVEALED MOLLY WAS PREGNANT.
YEAH... I WASN'T EXPECTING THAT.
DID YOU KNOW THERE'S A SEQUEL?
I GUESS IT'S NOT REALLY A SEQUEL, BUT IT'S THE SAME CHARACTERS IN NEW ROLES.
I haven't finished the original series yet... The title is...
That butler is the co-star!
LISTEN TO ME SING!
You idiot, Mitsui!
I'D RATHER TALK TO RIT-CHAN ABOUT BOOKS THAN LISTEN TO YOU SING.
Fine, let me join.
WHAT ELSE DO YOU READ, RIT-CHAN?
Rit-chan...
UM...
This and that...
How tasteful.
YOU CAN REALLY TELL WHEN A GIRL IS A TRUE READER.
I MET THIS GIRL FROM M HIGH THE OTHER DAY WHO SAID SHE LIKED READING.

I know what you mean.
PEOPLE INTO THAT STUFF ARE ALWAYS SO CONFIDENT.
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO ARE UNBELIEVABLE!
AND I CAN'T STAND PEOPLE WHO CRY OVER CELL PHONE NOVELS.
THAT'S NOT READING.
ha ha ha ha
WHEN I ASKED HER WHAT SHE READS,
SHE SAID, "FASHION MAGAZINES."
HA HA HA HA
Maybe she was joking.
That's terrible.
She was serious.
AND PEOPLE WHO ACT LIKE READERS AFTER TRYING ONE EASY BOOK!
THEY ASK FOR RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE THEY CAN
EVEN READ THE BOOKS I READ.
CAN'T THEY BOTHER TO LOOK FOR A BOOK THEMSELVES?
I DON'T AGREE.
DON'T YOU...
This was really interesting.
Senpai.
That scene...

IT'S NORMAL TO INITIALLY BE INTERESTED IN EASIER BOOKS.
IT'S FAR LESS NORMAL TO MAKE FUN OF PEOPLE FOR WANTING TO TRY READING ALL KINDS OF BOOKS.
RIT-CHAN.
OH
SILENCE
OH,
UM...
YOU'RE A NICE GIRL...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE FUN OF ANYONE.
TOUSLE
I THINK THAT'S GREAT.
SHIVER
PUSH
SPARKLE

DON'T RUN!
GRASP
WHAT...
BUT RIT-CHAN'S WAY CUTER THAN HER PICTURE.
CUT IT OUT, MITSUI.
Lame. She really doesn't like you. You're actually harming her, Mitsui.
STRAIN
Ow, ow.
MY PHONE IS RING-ING!
SHOVE
PANT PANT
THEY HUNG UP...
MA-YUMI-SAN?
HUH?
AN E-MAIL...
IT'S USA.

Sayaka-san said she saw you in front of the karaoke place by the station. Are you okay? Should we go help you?
I'm not okay.
That's how I see you, Kuroiwa.
Now she's whispering to me...
IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT I'M USING MAYUMI-SAN'S PHONE.
THE "WE" FEELS A LITTLE PATHETIC...
OH.
IT'S HER...
Re
SHE DOESN'T NEED MY HELP...
BUT...
But I'll handle it myself. I'm leaving.

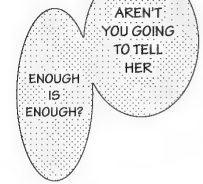
RIT-CHAN.
WE'RE GONNA FINISH UP KARAOKE AND GRAB DINNER...
HRR
SHE'S WILLING TO COMPLAIN TO ME
...WITH DINNER READY.
WHAT?
I'M LEAVING
COME WITH US.
THEY'RE WAITING FOR ME AT HOME...
Hey...
USA-KUN
I'M SO TIRED.
GOOD. SHE DIDN'T HIT IT OFF WITH ANY GUYS

SEN-PAI,
YOU REALLY HAD NO IDEA...
I'M JUST...
I PUT MY FAVORITE BOOKS IN IT.
YOUR BAG LOOKS HEAVY.
Want me to carry it?
I'm okay.
SIGH

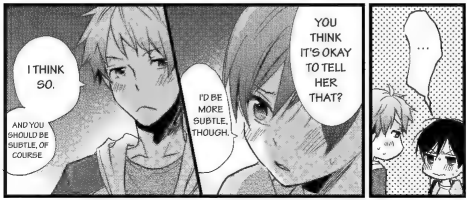
Rest-room!?
...THE REST-ROOMS.
THE E-MAILS
THE CON-STANT QUES-TIONS.

SEN...
I'M TIRED.

...TIRED...
...SO...


AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL HER
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH?

AND I LEARNED MY LESSON!
I DEFINITELY DID GO OVER-BOARD! YOU GOT YOUR POINT ACROSS QUITE WELL,
YES, I KNOW!
Though I lost my composure, too.
TH-THAT
WAS BECAUSE YOU WERE GOING WAY OVER-BOARD.


I THINK SO.
AND YOU SHOULD BE SUBTLE, OF COURSE.
I'D BE MORE SUBTLE, THOUGH.
YOU THINK IT'S OKAY TO TELL HER THAT?
...

What? But
Don't exaggerate!
It's true.
I was so shocked I couldn't get out of bed.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO TRICK YOU.
SORRY.
I THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS IF I TOLD YOU BOYS WERE COMING.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE KARAOKE, NEXT TIME...
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM.
I DON'T ENJOY THOSE KINDS OF EVENTS, SO...
NO! COME WITH ME!
MITSUI REALLY LIKED YOU.
HE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT HOW CUTE YOU ARE SINCE I SENT HIM THAT PICTURE
PIC-TURE...?
REMEMBER THE ONE WE TOOK TOGETHER THE OTHER DAY?
I SENT THAT TO EVERYONE.
MITSUI'S A GOOD GUY.
YOU SHOULD START ACTING LIKE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AND GET A BOYFRIEND...
CLENCH
DON'T DO THAT WITHOUT ASKING ME!
I'M SORRY, BUT...
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GOING AGAIN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO ANGRY...
IT'S FUN HANGING OUT WITH BOYS.
I JUST WANTED YOU TO HAVE FUN, TOO.

DON'T SAY YOU'RE SHY...
I PROMISE YOU'LL HAVE FUN ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT!
SINCE WE'RE FRIENDS, WE SHOULD—
MAE-MURA-SAN.
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T JUST WANT SOMEONE TO BE WITH YOU ALL THE TIME?
SORRY, I WENT TOO FAR...
NO...
I TEND TO... CHARGE INTO THINGS ON MY OWN...
SORRY.
I GOT IN A FIGHT
WITH MY FRIENDS FOR THE SAME REASON...
MAYBE I WAS DES-PERATE...
I KNOW YOU DON'T MEAN ANY HARM.
IF YOU APOLOGIZE, I'M SURE YOUR FRIENDS WILL FORGIVE YOU.

YOU...
YOU THINK SO?
YES.

That was our background music for a while.
Things have calmed down now.
NO E-MAILS TODAY, HUH?

DID THEY REACH...
...AN UNDER-STAND-ING?

UM...
COM-ING.
MAE-MURA.
GOOD MORNING.
GOOD MORN-ING...
I'M BUSY TODAY, SO I CAN'T MAKE IT
TO THE LI-BRARY...
閲書室
SIGN
LIBRARY

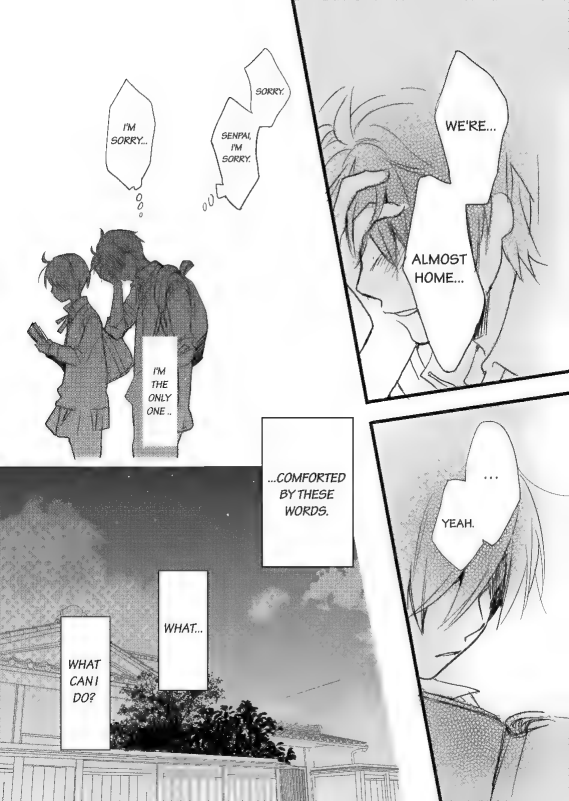
SENPAI, THE LIBRARY'S CLOSING...
OKAY.
SEN-PAI'S BEEN ALONE THE PAST FEW DAYS...
YOU'RE LATE, MAE-MURA.
SORRY, I WAS TALKING TO SOME-ONE.
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO GO HOME TO-GETHER.
THAT PERSON IS SEN-PAI'S...
sorry
MAEMURA, WHEN WE WERE FIGHTING,
WEREN'T YOU GOING HOME WITH KAWAI-SAN A LOT?
You're heart-less.
WHAT ABOUT HER?
OH...

I GUESS WE'RE NOT ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH.
YEAH, I GET THAT VIBE FROM HER.
SHE SEEMS TO PREFER BEING ALONE...
SO IT NATURALLY ENDED.
SHE'S A NICE PERSON AND ALL, BUT...
.....

I'M LEAVING.
WELL...
I DID EXPECT THIS TO HAPPEN...
...
BUT...
...IT WAS FUN TALKING ABOUT BOOKS...
OH, RIGHT.

I WAS THE ONLY ONE HAVING FUN.

I'M SORRY I TOLD YOU—
THIS BOOK!
S...
SEN-PAI,
I...
!
GUI
COVER
IT'S SO MOVING, IT OVER-WHELMED ME AGAIN.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I SHOULDN'T READ REALLY GOOD BOOKS WHILE I'M OUTSIDE.
IT'S BECAUSE OF THE BOOK, BUT PEOPLE WILL GET... THE WRONG IDEA.
YEAH...
SERIOUS BOOKS... CAN DELIVER A REAL PUNCH...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT...


I'M SORRY...
SORRY.
SENPAI, I'M SORRY.
I'M THE ONLY ONE..
WE'RE...
ALMOST HOME...
...COMFORTED BY THESE WORDS.
...
YEAH.
WHAT...
WHAT CAN I DO?

...AND YOU WERE, WHAT, ENJOYING YOUTH WHILE THE SUN SET BEHIND YOU?!
YOU GUYS ARE LATE!
GO DIE IN A FIRE! DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE OUT FLIRTING WITH EACH OTHER! GO DIE IN A FIRE!
I'M HEART-BROKEN HERE...
DID THEY USE SAILOR M*ON BEFORE OUT OF PITY FOR ME?
AND THEY USED WORDS FROM GIRLY ANIME MY GENERATION WOULDN'T RECOGNIZE AS CODES FOR THE PLACE AND TIME!
THE YOUNGER GIRLS HAD ANOTHER MIXER THEY KEPT SECRET FROM ME.
DO-RE-M*?
why is everyone out right now!
MIS-DIRECTED KINDNESS IS EVEN WORSE THAN CON-TEMPT!

HUH?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
脱ぐ
DRAINED
IT ALL
SEEMS SO STUPID NOW...
I WISH SOMEONE WANTED ME SO BADLY THEY'D TRICK ME INTO GOING!
STUPID?!
JUST BECAUSE YOU WENT TO YOUR FIRST MIXER...
I'M DONE!
It's never enough for you.
I DON'T LIKE IT!
MAYUMI-SAN...
WHAT?
?
?
I'M GLAD YOU'RE AS LOW AS THEY COME...
WHAT WAS THAT, YOU VIRGIN?
CHAPTER THREE

CHAPTER 8

"IN THE BACK OF THE HOUSE, ARLENE"...

ARLENE...
WHO'S ARLENE?

It's too hard to remember everything...
THERE ARE TOO MANY CHARACTERS, AND I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE JOB TITLES.
THIS IS TOO HARD FOR ME...
Bailey Family
Mrs. Marie (artificial)
Count Bailey (walk-ratted, into Marie)
Alex
Cornella (bitch)
Darren (dick cheese)
Flora (strange)
OH, THE PRETTY MAID...
Upper Servants
Butler
Ladies
Maids
Arlene
Molly
(disappearing but astronomic)
(invisible)
(dignified)
Head Housekeepers
Ellen
Nanny
(not her name)

IT'S NOT AN EROTIC NOVEL!
PERSONALLY, I PREFER WHEN THE ROLES ARE REVERSED IN BED.
OR IS IT A "PLEASE STOP, MASTER!" SORT OF THING?
MAIDS ARE A SOLID CHOICE. IS IT ALL, "OH, YES! COME ON"?
YOU'RE A FAN OF FOREIGN GOODS...
AND I DON'T WANT HER TO THINK I'M FORCING MYSELF TO READ A BOOK THAT'S BEYOND ME.
Though I am forcing myself.
SENPAI WAS HOOKED ON THIS BOOK...
That's why I thought.
IF IT'S A NORMAL BOOK, WHY AREN'T YOU READING IN THE LIVING ROOM?
USUALLY YOU TRY TO SHOW OFF.
I'M NOT DOING THIS TO MAKE HER FEEL BETTER. I'M GENUINELY INTERESTED
I WANT TO LEARN TO NATURALLY ENJOY
THE THINGS SENPAI ENJOYS.
it's a hard read, but it's interesting.
AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, IT WOULDN'T BE TACTFUL.
URGH

I WANT TO GET CLOSER TO HER.
OUR NEIGHBOR GAVE ME SOME HOMEMADE PLUM WINE.
IT'S BEEN AGING FOR FIVE YEARS!
梅酒
2007.06.
FIVE YEARS, HUH...
KAZUYA WAS BY MY SIDE...
IT'S GOOD!
It's not too sweet.
IT GOES DOWN SMOOTH.
IT'S PRETTY STRONG. DON'T DRINK TOO MUCH.
YOU TWO CAN HAVE PLUM JUICE.
IT'S GOOD.
17 CM?
YOU DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HIS NAME.
NO, HIRO-KI...
WAIT, WAS IT YUJI?
RYO?
NO, WAS IT NAO-NORI?
EVEN HIS SIZE...
THINGS WERE GOOD BACK THEN...
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW YOU CAN LOOK SO SOMBER.

I'm sure you didn't think you'd turn out like you five years ago...
Shut up, average girl!
LIKE ALCOHOL, WOMEN GAIN COMPLEXITY AS THEY AGE.
SUMIKO-SAN.
BUT SOMETIMES YOU BREAK THE SEAL TO FIND BACTERIA HAVE GOTTEN IN AND RUINED IT.
SHUT UP! YOU'RE A BACTERIA THAT RUINS MEN!
IT'S NOT FAIR THAT YOU ENJOY LIFE WHEN YOU'RE SUCH A BAD PERSON.
NO KIDDING! NOT THAT I'M JEALOUS! WAIT,
WAS THAT...
HIRC
AAAH!
SENPAI?

I...
IS THIS...
Oh, my! Water! Get water!
Can I borrow the towel with water?
I'll clean up. Meet me at 3rd floor's restroom!
SHE'S ALREADY HAD A LOT!
RIT-CHAN'S NOT DRINK-ING JUICE!
...WHEN I GET TO DO ALL KINDS OF THINGS
I'm hot. I'm taking off my clothes!
BECAUSE SHE ACCIDEN-TALLY GOT DRUNK?
Do some-thing.
OKAY, THE MEN AND WOMEN WILL BE PARTING WAYS NOW
MY LUCK VANISHED IN A SINGLE PANEL!
SHOO SHOO
TWITCH
UHN... LUCKY!
FINE, THEN...
IS THIS ONE OF THOSE LUCKY AND PERVERTED MOMENTS THAT I THOUGHT WAS JUST AN URBAN LEGEND?!
WELL? I JUST DID YOU A HUGE FAVOR.
SAYAKA-SAN!
wasn't that perverted enough for you?
By the way, I said unlucky.
Uhm... lucky, isn't it?
Well, you pervert!

SAYAKA-SAN... YOU'RE NOT FAIR.
YOU'RE A BAD PERSON...
...BUT YOU HAVE FRIENDS LIKE TSUNEKO-SAN.
WAIT... RIT-CHAN, ARE YOU AN AG-GRESSIVE DRUNK?
And Tsuneko's really annoying.
Pinch
Slap
YEAH, SHE'S RIGHT. I WISH A GIRL AS EVIL AS YOU WAS TOO TRAUMATIZED TO MAKE ANY FRIENDS.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH THAT YOU LOOK AWFUL WITHOUT MAKEUP.
MAYUMI-SAN'S PRETTY BAD, TOO.
DESPITE WHAT YOU SAY, YOU UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER...
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SUCH A BAD PERSON...
That's the third time.
I DON'T FEEL LIKE I'LL EVER FIND A FRIEND ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH AS ME...

I WASN'T LISTENING VERY CLOSELY.
BUT IF YOU WANT TO TALK, WE'LL LISTEN.
First, have some water.
You don't seem to want to talk.
OH.
SHE SOUNDS LIKE A REALLY CLINGY FRIEND.
Sounds like you wouldn't get along.
Why'd you go there...
I TOLD SENPAI TO TELL HER...
I THOUGHT SHE WOULD UNDER-STAND.
IT'S ALSO MY FAULT...
YOU IDIOT.
SHE PROBABLY THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST LIKE HER.
YOU SCREWED UP, TOO.
YOU FORCED YOURSELF TO GO ALONG WITH HER AT FIRST.
YOUR WORDS MAY HAVE BEEN HARD TO SWALLOW FOR SOMEONE WHO THINKS FRIENDS SHOULD DO EVERY-THING TO-GETHER.
UH, UM...

EVEN IF SHE UNDERSTOOD, YOU WOULD'VE DRIFTED APART EVENTUALLY.
SOMETHING IMPORTANT WAS MISSING BETWEEN YOU.
THE GIRL'S RIGHT.
THEY JUST DIDN'T GET ALONG.
I don't think I'll ever find someone on my wavelength.
SO I CAN'T MAKE FRIENDS.
Oh.
SHE GAVE UP!
HOW GRACEFUL!
TAKING PICTURES WITHOUT PERMISSION LIKE MAEMURA DID
IS A NO-NO...
AND WHETHER YOU WANT TO BE CLOSE AT ALL.
IT'S WHETHER YOU CAN GET ALONG DESPITE NOT MATCHING...
THERE'S NO ONE WHO'S GOING TO MATCH YOU IN EVERY WAY.
AND MATCHING ISN'T WHAT MATTERS.

I WISH I COULD ERASE THE FACT I TOOK YOU SERIOUSLY AT FIRST.
YOU'RE NOT FLEXIBLE. YOU'RE JUST LOOSE.
YOU NEED TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE, RIT-CHAN.
BUT IF IT GETS ME A HOT GUY, I LET IT SLIDE.
AFTER ALL, RIT-CHAN...
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
THERE'S SOMEONE ON YOUR WAVELENGTH?
EVEN IF YOU'RE ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH, YOUR INTERESTS MAY DIFFER UPON CLOSER INSPECTION.
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
ALL THE WORTHLESS MEN YOU LET IN HAVE MADE YOU SO LOOSE.
BE-CAUSE...
BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT, RIGHT?
REALLY?
I BET THAT BOOK'S A PIECE OF CAKE FOR HIM.
MITSUI
YEAH...
...THERE WERE BOYS AT THE MIXER WHO SHARED YOUR INTEREST IN BOOKS, RIGHT?

?
THEY ASK FOR RECOMMEN-DATIONS...
AND PEOPLE WHO ACT LIKE READERS AFTER TRYING ONE EASY BOOK!
BECAUSE...
I TALKED BACK TO HIM...
IN ANY CASE, I DIDN'T LIKE HIM!
WHAT?
?!
?!
?!

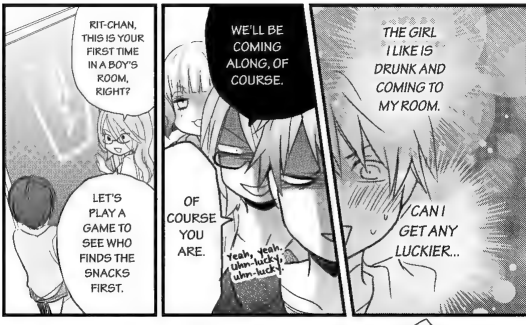
HMPH
むうう
I'M GLAD SENPAI DIDN'T GET HURT.
USA-KUN,
I THINK YOU'RE TOO NICE.
BANG
だん
YOU STILL HAVEN'T QUIT YOUR JOB,
already quit.
AND THERE'S THAT GIRL FROM YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL...
HAYASHI?
WHEN PEOPLE SAY MEAN THINGS ABOUT YOU,
Mean things?
YOU INTERPRET IT POSITIVELY!
YOU'RE TOO CONSIDERATE AND A TOTAL MASOCHIST!

GULP
ごく
YOU'RE NICE TO HER DESPITE WHAT HAPPENED!
YOU SHOULD BE MORE ANGRY!
SHE DID MENTION HAYASHI BEFORE...
DO YOU NOT LIKE IT WHEN I'M NICE TO HAYASHI?
BA-DUMP BA-DUMP
ドキ ドキ
…
WHAT'S I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...
…
…
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW!
GUH
ぐぬ
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?!
I'M HUNGRY...
SORRY!
GUH
ぐぬ

I'M GOING TO GO BUY DESSERT.
YOU CAN'T GO OUT LIKE THAT!
THAT'S RIGHT, RIT-CHAN! YOU CAN'T GO OUT!
IT'S TIME FOR BED. YOU'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT.
Don't be selfish.
GRIND
...
GRIND
SHE'S POUTING...

I'LL GO WITH YOU.
PULL
I'LL GO GET—
I'VE GOT SNACKS IN MY ROOM.
what a cute crea-ture...

THE PLACE BY THE STATION ONLY SELLS 30 OF ITS CREAM PUFFS PER DAY.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING THAT FANCY!
You're pretty drunk!
WHAT?!
YOU'RE COMING TO MY ROOM?!


RIT-CHAN, THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME IN A BOY'S ROOM, RIGHT?
LET'S PLAY A GAME TO SEE WHO FINDS THE SNACKS FIRST.
WE'LL BE COMING ALONG, OF COURSE.
OF COURSE YOU ARE.
Yeah, yeah. Uhm-lucky. Uhm-lucky.
THE GIRL I LIKE IS DRUNK AND COMING TO MY ROOM.
CAN I GET ANY LUCKIER...

CHECK UNDER THE BED, AT THE BOTTOM OF DRAWERS, AND THE BACK OF BOOKSHELVES!
THOSE AREN'T SNACKS!
If it's stained, +20 points!
If it's uncensored, +30 points!
TWENTY POINTS FOR A NUDE PHOTOBOOK!
FIVE POINTS FOR A SWIMSUIT ISSUE!
OKAY, LET'S GO!
150 POINTS FOR A SEX DOLL!
200 points for a love doll!
What about my 20 Binding Methods book?!
Leaving that in the open is -50 points!
ADD 50 POINTS IF IT'S ABNORMAL!
A PORN DVD IS 50 POINTS!

The type who remembers.
RUSTLE
YES-TER-DAY!
MM...
WHERE AM I...?
...
USA-KUN AND SHIRO-SAN... AREN'T HERE?
It's just Mayumi-san...
SNUGGLE
THIS BOOK...
HE DOESN'T HAVE TO
FORCE HIMSELF TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER...
FLIP

I'M GLAD SENPAI IS IN MY ROOM, THOUGH.
PAGE
no...
I CAN'T JUST BURST IN...
AND I'M SCARED TO WAKE MAYUMI-SAN.
no...
PAGE
Almost discovered.
HMM...
IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THEY'RE MOVING...
IMMEDIATE-LY THROWN OUT BECAUSE THEY WERE TIRED AND SLEPT IN THE LIVING ROOM.
Mer, sleep out side!
IF THEY LOOK IN THE BOX BEHIND THE SHELVES, I'M SCREWED!!
20 points.
SLUMP
HUH...
Yawn...
...?
RIT-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT?
IT IS A JOURNAL OF USA-KUN'S FANTASIES?
WHAT'S THAT? LET ME SEE.
OH?
SHUFFLE
N-
NOTHI-NG.

IT'S USA! I'M OPENING THE DOOR!
BANG
BANG
CLICK
DASH
WAIT...
WHAT IS THIS? IT'S BORING.
!!
DID SENPAI SEE THIS NOTE-BOOK?!
CRAP. WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SHE MUST'VE BEEN DISGUSTED...
SE...
SEN-PAI!

BEEP!
YOUR COMMENTS ARE TOO FUNNY...
Sorry for reading your notes.
WHAT? DON'T YOU THINK SHE ACTS A LITTLE WEIRD?
YOU CALLED FLORA A STRANGE GIRL...
THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL MYSTERIOUS.
HA HA
BEEP!
MAYBE...
WHAT?
Your notes.
CAN YOU SHOW ME AGAIN, ONCE YOU'RE FURTHER ALONG?
SURE... BUT DON'T LAUGH.
THEN WILL YOU ADD YOUR COMMENTS AGAIN?
What a grin!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
SURE, GOT IT.
IT'S LIKE
AN EXCHANGE DIARY.
...WE'RE CLOSER THAN I THOUGHT.

IDIOT!
ME AND SENPAI.
Bailey Family
Mrs. Marie (critical)
Cornelia (bitch)
Darren (dick cheese)
Flora (strange)
Court Bailey (weak-willed, into Marie)
Alex
Changes suddenly after chapter 4...!
She'll seem more reasonable as you keep reading
I agree
Key suspicious person
Upper Servants
Butler
Ladies
Maids
(hasn't appeared yet, is the Bailey Family okay?)
Arlene (disappointing but attractive)
(invisible)
Stupid key person
After an undetectable development in chapter 5, the story jumps forward.
Try to make it through the third chapter
DON'T BRING MORNING TV SHOWS INTO THIS!
One of those is already over.
Is that it?
WHAT IS THIS, SHOVE IT IN AT DAWN: LIVE?! MORNING SPECIAL: ZOOM IT IN?!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS FLIRTING ABOUT SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?

CHAPTER 8/END

SHIRO-SAN AND ME 11